THE RECORD

September – October 2008

10th Annual Health Care Heroes Awards

On September 4, the Memphis Business Journal held its 10th Annual Health Care Heroes Awards dinner to honor those who bring healing and hope into the lives of those who need it. More than 300 members of the health care community, along with their families, friends and colleagues attended.

Chancellor Hershel “Pat” Wall won the Health Care Heroes Award for Administration Excellence and Martin Croce, MD, professor of General Surgery and Chief of the Division of Trauma and Critical Care, won the Health Care Provider – Physician Award.

This year the judges selected six UTHSC nominees as Health Care Heroes finalists. All of the UTHSC finalists gathered during the reception before the event.

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Hamilton Eye Institute Unveiling

On Monday, August 4, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) celebrated the unveiling of the Hamilton Eye Institute.

After a three-phase project starting in 2004, The Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled the signage of its new 60,000-square-foot facility located at 930 Madison Avenue. The unveiling marked a celebration honoring Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and his wife Barbara Howell Hamilton for their lifelong work and dedication in the field of ophthalmology.

The celebration began with a brief welcome from Linda Garceau-Luis, MBA, MA, vice chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs. Following the welcome was a tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton by Steve Schwab, MD, executive dean, College of Medicine; Peter Netland, MD, PhD, vice chair for Academic Affairs; Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS, Hamilton Professor and chair; Hershel P. Wall, MD, chancellor of UTHSC; and John D. Petersen, PhD, president of the University of Tennessee.

A patient testimonial was given by 65-year-old Gene Brazele. “I will be forever grateful for the quality treatment I received….”

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Recruiting Clinical Nurse Leaders

The UTHSC College of Nursing is now recruiting for a new degree program. The program will recruit non-nurses who already have a bachelor’s degree to obtain their master’s. The Master of Science in Nursing program prepares students for initial licensure as registered nurses and for certification as a Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL™). As the participants’ first professional degree in nursing, it also provides the foundation for preparation in advanced practice in Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs or for research in PhD programs.

Individuals can apply for the CNL program with an undergraduate degree in any field. The accelerated 22-month program includes a science-rich curriculum and clinical immersion that prepare graduates for today’s complex health care environment. After only 16 months in the master’s CNL program, students will be eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensure examination. Following a final clinical immersion experience, graduates will then be eligible to sit for national certification as Clinical Nurse Leaders.

Five College of Nursing graduates participated in the CNL pilot program, graduating in 2007. Brittany Cardell, W. Keith Hilliard, Susan Strange, Trenna Richardson and Anna Winston were the first UTHSC students to earn a MSN in the new practice option.

One of the central benefits of the CNL program is that nurses can advance their

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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.
CTSI Awards First Four Grants

On July 1, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) awarded four grants to experienced researchers. The first-time awards were made through the CTSI Pilot Projects Program. The program’s goal is to provide funds for investigators and clinicians to enhance the quality and efficiency of translational research and its applications.

The 2008 Pilot Projects Program award recipients are Monica Jablonski, PhD, Ophthalmology; Karl Weber, MD, Cardiology; Ron Adkins, PhD, Pediatrics, and Betty Lew, MD, Pediatrics. This group of primary investigators worked with an established team of colleagues from UTHSC, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Eye Institute, University of Memphis and Cumberland Pharmaceuticals to develop their submissions. Collectively the researchers and their teams received more than $280,000.

Dr. Monica Jablonski and a team of UTHSC, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and National Eye Institute investigators will use the award to further develop a treatment to slow the process of AMD (age-related macular degeneration), a condition where parts of the eye deteriorate.

Dr. Karl Weber and his UTHSC collaborators will use the award to determine if a severe form of congestive heart failure in African-Americans can be reversed by dietary supplementation of calcium, magnesium, zinc, selenium and vitamin D combination with today’s standard of care.

Dr. Ron Adkins and his UTHSC and University of Memphis collaborators will use the award to link the risk of babies that are small for gestational age or have impaired cognitive development to genetic risks and the interaction of diet during pregnancy.

Dr. Betty Lew and her collaborators from UTHSC and Cumberland Pharmaceuticals will use the award to develop a promising new therapy for treating and preventing asthma in children. Specifically, mannan (or complex carbohydrates) will be tested for the treatment of respiratory inflammatory diseases in a mouse model of asthma.

Support from the Pilot Projects Program will lead to advanced training and education of faculty and collaborators in translational research. Findings from translational research allow the medical community to turn key results into clinical studies for medical practices and health care decision-makers. All research projects adhere to CTSI’s "bench to bedside" and "bedside to community" methodology.

“The University of Tennessee Health Science Center has been the leading force in shaping research opportunities for a number of years,” said UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. “The CTSI has created a practical platform that provides investigators with funding to advance translational research. We are extremely pleased with the impressive submissions and with these outstanding award recipients,” he added.

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Campus Police on the Move

Campus Police and Parking Services officially opened their doors on August 1. Visitors to the UTHSC Campus Police Department are now required to buzz in as they enter the new building, which is located southwest of the 45 N. Manassas St. building.

“The new facility is designed to provide an optimal and a more user-friendly environment to the campus community,” said Chief of Police and Director of Parking Services, Lue Ida Walls-Uphurche.

Chief Uphurche said the move was necessary for different reasons. “We have simply outgrown the old building in many ways,” said Chief Uphurche. “We needed a larger space to better assist the community and expedite their needs, providing a safer and more secure environment,” she added.

As in all communities, public safety, crime and the loss of property are daily issues. The University of Tennessee Health Science Center has a duty to implement reasonable measures to protect students, faculty, staff and visitors.

This move will enable campus police to increase campus safety in a more efficient manner. New radio and video equipment rooms are enhanced features at the department. “Through video we can extensively watch several positions and parking lots throughout campus,” said Deputy Chief Reno Greganti. The old video surveillance equipment monitored 160 areas. The new equipment will increase monitoring capability of up to 260 individual cameras.

The Court Avenue upgrades include an official reception area, three parking counters, and separate roll call areas for police officers and security officers.

Detective Charles Gutelius said, “The investigations unit will have separate rooms for processing and interviewing victims and suspects that will be moved from 800 Madison to 45 N. Manassas.”

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A ‘Survival Guide for Preschool Parents’

Preschoolers frequently present parents with challenging behavior. Many parents are in need of a barrier that helps to soothe their preschoolers while offering self-help motivation. The “Survival Guide for Preschool Parents” offers techniques and tips to recognize and manage challenging behavior.

The book was created by a team of professionals who organized the group Growing Up. The group consists of doctors and professionals who are passionate about assisting communities with today’s health and behavior practices. The group currently includes Jerry Heston, MD, Melissa Hoffmann, PhD, and Mailie Shelton, LCSC, as well as Susan K. Howe, president and CEO of Communication Associates.

Developed through the generous support of The Assisi Foundation of Memphis, the book is broken into specific tabbed sections and worksheets. Contents include: Challenging Behavior, Learning at Home, Praise and Encouragement, Rewards, Behavior Charts, Punishments, Time-out, The “S” Word, and When Behavior. The book is organized in binder format. It is filled with nine useful guides, worksheets and a 15-minute DVD video.

Dr. Heston was on the faculty at UTHSC for many years before establishing Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Associates (CAPA) as a private practice office.

Dr. Hoffmann is currently an assistant in the Department of Psychiatry, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Dr. Howe and a team of writers worked closely with the physicians and the community to ensure accuracy of Growing Up materials. For more information, or to purchase a “Survival Guide for Preschool Parents,” please visit http://assisi-resources.org.

The study included data from the state’s four major medical schools: UTHSC, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Meharry Medical College School of Medicine in Nashville and East Tennessee State University. James H. Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City.

Master of Health Informatics and Information Management Program Earns CAHIIM Approval

On May 22, the Master of Health Informatics and Information Management program in the College of Allied Health Sciences at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center received designation as an “Approved Program” by the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). The UTHSC master’s level Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM) program is currently only the fourth of its kind in the country to earn approval by CAHIIM.

“We are excited about achieving this milestone as these past two years have required a significant effort from the faculty and current students to attain this collective goal,” said Rebecca Reynolds, EdD, RHIA, associate professor, privacy coordinator and program director for the graduate program in HIIM at UTHSC.

“A successful graduate program in HIIM is vital if the Mid-South is to reap the benefits of modern health care delivery and innovation. The faculty is to be congratulated on earning this approval from CAHIIM,” said William Frey, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences at UT Health Science Center.

CAHIIM and its sponsoring organization(s) cooperate to establish, maintain and promote appropriate standards of quality for postsecondary educational programs in health informatics and information management to provide a competent, skilled professional workforce for the health care industry. CAHIIM accredits degree-granting programs in health informatics and information management that have undergone a rigorous process of voluntary peer review and have met or exceeded the minimum accreditation standards as set by the professional association.

CAHIIM was established as an independent accreditation commission in 2004 by the house of delegates of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). AHIMA has conducted specialized programmatic accreditation since 1943, operating jointly with the American Medical Association and in subsequent collaboration with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

Seminar to Honor Ann Bell

The Mid-South Conference on Clinical Laboratory Science will honor Ann Bell, MS, SA (ASCP), PhD, during the Hematology and Coagulation seminar. The continuing medical education course will take place on November 14 in the Methodist University Hospital Medical Staff Auditorium at 1265 Union Avenue.

Dr. Bell, emeritus professor of Clinical Laboratory Science and emeritus assistant professor, UT Department of Medicine, spent 44 years teaching hematology and is an expert on blood cells. She is co-author of the internationally acclaimed “The Morphology of Human Blood Cells,” which is in its seventh edition. Dr. Bell was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree at UT Health Science Center’s 2007 graduation.

The seminar honoring Dr. Bell will include an overview and update in hematology and coagulation as well as address current issues of interest and importance in the field. Methodist Healthcare is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. program. The registration fee is $30 for professionals and $10 for students. For more information, visit www.methodistmd.org or call (901) 516-8933.
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knowledge and career; yet continue to work with patients at the bedside every day.

“"The CNL is a needed role," said pilot graduate Susan Strange, MSN, at the VA Medical Center in Memphis. "I’m able to expedite and make processes flow more smoothly for the patient’s entire hospital experience," she added. "In this role, I act as the patient’s communicator and collaborate with the entire medical team to ensure the best possible outcomes."

The CNL program is anticipated to contribute to an overall improvement of the quality of care being delivered in hospitals. With a CNL on duty, hospitals are able to concentrate on improving processes unit by unit and designing better models for executing daily tasks.

Donna Hathaway, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing, said, “We are preparing nurses for a different level of care. The CNL program will help transform care at the bedside.” Dean Hathaway is leading a series of initiatives to ensure that UTHSC nursing graduates are well prepared to meet the growing complexities of health care. “In the future we anticipate all hospitals will have Clinical Nurse Leaders who are making a major impact on the quality of patient care,” she added.

As a Clinical Nurse Leader, graduates will have an in-depth understanding of frontline care systems that promote safety, error reduction and quality improvement in the direct care of patients with complex health problems.

The College of Nursing is currently promoting its master’s-level CNL program through advertising on Memphis radio stations and in ads like this one in Graceland magazine, the Tri-State Defender, The Commercial Appeal and the Memphis Flyer (both print and online).

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from the Hamilton Eye Institute," said Brazele. The Sparkman, Ark., native brought laughter to a crowd of more than 170 visitors as he joked about how his neighbors avoided him as he drove down the streets of his hometown.

Brazele was legally blind in both eyes. Other physicians told him that surgery was too risky. He now has 20/20 vision in his left eye thanks to Hamilton Eye Institute doctors. He recalled his first encounter with Dr. Netland who assured him that the institute could help.

After Brazele’s heartwarming testimony, Dr. Hamilton thankfully addressed the crowd.

The Hamilton Eye Institute is truly a vertically integrated institute.

Guests included faculty, staff, patients, friends and government officials. Tennessee State Senator, 33rd District, Reginald Tate was acknowledged by President Petersen. “The opening of this eye institute is a great impact on the community,” said Tate. He added, “This is a very unique completion, and it has high potential to reach the community. It really is a big deal.” Tate currently serves as the vice chair of the Health Disparity Committee.

The space includes the Glaucoma Center, a surgery center, a general adult eye care clinic, subspecialty care clinics, a pediatric eye clinic, a wet lab for surgical instruction, a distance learning suite, and an ambulatory surgery center. Medical libraries and resource centers for physicians and patients are also housed in the building.

The second floor contains the educational facility with a 99-seat auditorium.

Consistently ranked in the nation’s top 10 for clinical care, the Hamilton Eye Institute is the only university eye center providing an advanced level of vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis.

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Additionally, the bicycle patrol unit will occupy adjacent rooms under the supervision of Sergeant David Oglesby. Some of these facilities are new to the department and others have been modified.

The new location, which will eventually house the entire department, is still under transformation. The office of Chief Upchurch and the majority of her staff are operating in the new location. For the time being, the interrogations unit will remain in the Manassas building.

The Court Avenue space was once owned by Baptist Memorial Healthcare and was purchased by UTHSC in early 2006. The department thanks Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, chief of staff and executive vice chancellor, for prioritizing campus safety.

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In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Wall stated: “I have been so blessed to have been able to serve the Health Science Center for almost 50 years in one capacity or another. The wonderful students, residents, physician peers in the College of Medicine and now my splendid colleagues here and across the state in our flagship health sciences institution...as well as our partners in the Memphis health care enterprise have all been a huge part of my professional life.

“Jean, my bride of 43 years, who has always encouraged me to accept additional administrative responsibilities which I neither sought nor to which I aspired, deserves the greater credit, and I will always be grateful to her and to my colleagues who have been so supportive.

“Thank you for recognizing me and my colleagues at the Health Science Center for the important role it has played in this community and state for almost a century.”

Chancellor Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD, and his wife Jean made an elegant pair as they posed with his Health Care Heroes Award for Administrative Excellence.

Martin Croce, MD, won the Health Care Provider - Physician Award
DuPont Danisco, UT to Build Biofuel Facility

On July 23, a partnership between DuPont Danisco Cellulosic Ethanol LLC (DDCE) and the University of Tennessee (UT) Research Foundation was announced. The joint venture will start the construction of an innovative pilot-scale biofinery and state-of-the-art research and development facility for cellulosic ethanol in Vonore, Tenn.

DDCE possesses leading cellulosic ethanol technology. The pilot-scale biofinery’s main function is to develop the commercial package for this technology.

UT’s role will enhance the project by offering its superlative expertise in cellulosic feedstock production and co-product research. The project will also utilize findings from UT’s work conducted with Tennessee farmers to develop the first dedicated cellulosic energy crop supply chain for cellulosic biofineries that utilize switch grass.

“We are extremely pleased to collaborate with DDCE,” UT President John Petersen said. “The technical breadth and execution capabilities of DuPont Danisco, along with the backing of their parent companies, raise the national and international profile of the Tennessee Biofuels Initiative and confirm the state of Tennessee as a leader in the development of cellulosic ethanol.”

The Tennessee Biofuels Initiative is a farm-to-fuel business plan developed by UT Institute of Agriculture researchers. The Tennessee Biofuels Initiative is a farm-to-fuel business plan developed by UT Institute of Agriculture researchers. The goal is to leverage the best of Tennessee’s agricultural and academic resources in a way that will maximize our potential as a farm-based fuels leader. Biomass ethanol research and production is fundamental to positioning Tennessee to take advantage of the economic opportunities of the future.”

The pilot plant and process development unit (PDU) will be located at the Niles Ferry Industrial Park. The plant’s capacity will hold 250,000 gallons of cellulosic ethanol annually. Site preparations are scheduled to begin this fall, and ethanol should be available from the pilot plant by December 2009. According to DuPont Danisco Technology Leader John Pierce, the plant has the potential to produce more than 1,000 gallons of ethanol per acre.

Graduate School of Medicine Faculty, Researchers Receive Awards

The University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine Office of the Dean announces awards presented recently to the institution’s teaching physicians, dentists, researchers and volunteer faculty physicians. Award recipients and their awards include the following:

- Alfred Beasley, MD, director, Graduate Medical and Dental Education: Spirit Award
- Michael Fields, MD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Surgery: Excellence in Teaching for Volunteer Faculty Award
- David A. Gerard, PhD, professor, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: Excellence and Leadership in Basic Science Research Award
- Oscar H. Grandas, MD, assistant professor, Department of Surgery: Excellence and Leadership in Clinical Research Award
- Daphne Norwood, MD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine: Excellence in Teaching Award

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The Pilot Projects Program is proactive, responsive and supportive in obtaining extramural funding for new research initiatives. The program staff works to garner additional funding from federal, private foundation and industry sources.

The CTSI staff received 39 letters of intent for the 2008 Pilot Projects Program and 18 teams were invited to submit full proposals. Applicants endured a rigorous selection process that required them to explain how utilization and development of innovative technologies will contribute to translational research. Although there were several valuable projects not awarded grants, the CTSI team will work with these researchers to improve their proposals for future Pilot Project Programs.

The Clinical and Translational Science Institute is a revolutionary interdisciplinary center at UTHSC with a mission to conduct research that translates scientific discoveries into clinical applications.

Dean Search Update

A diverse team of accomplished individuals has been gathering to search for the next dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences. Joining Dean Dick Gourley, PharmD, College of Pharmacy, who is chairing the search committee, are Beth Bowman, professor in Health Informatics and Information Management, College of Allied Health Sciences; J. Stansill Covington III, DDS, professor and interim chair, Biologic and Diagnostic Sciences, College of Dentistry; Marlene Fulilove, RDH BSDH, former vice-president, Tennessee Board of Dentistry; Charles R. Handoft, MD, PhD, professor and chair of Pathology, College of Medicine; Susan R. Jacob, PhD, executive associate dean, College of Nursing; Chris Smith, a student in the Medical Technology program, College of Allied Health Sciences, and a member of the Student Government Association Executive Council; and Audrey Zucker-Levin, associate professor of Physical Therapy, College of Allied Health Sciences, and secretary-treasurer of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

We expect the committee to identify a number of talented and well-qualified candidates to succeed Dean Frey when he retires from the college at the end of 2008.
New OB/GYN Chair at Graduate School of Medicine

The UT Graduate School of Medicine Office of the Dean recently announced that Bobby Howard, MD, FACOG, has been named chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Currently an associate professor for the Graduate School, a UTHSC College of Medicine campus, Dr. Howard commenced as chair on September 1.

“The Graduate School is very pleased that Dr. Howard will be serving as chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine (GSM). “He has specialized training in maternal-fetal medicine, which is high-risk pregnancy, and has a unique set of skills that will help the Graduate School of Medicine meet its mission of excellence in education, research and patient care.”

In addition to associate professor, Dr. Howard currently serves as division director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and medical director of the Regional Perinatal Center at UT Medical Center.

“Each team member in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology is steadfastly committed to improving women’s health throughout East Tennessee,” Dr. Howard said. “I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve such a distinguished group of educators and health care providers as department chairman.”

Originally from Birmingham, Ala., Dr. Howard earned his medical degree at the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham, where he also completed his residency training in OB/GYN. He received his fellowship training in maternal-fetal medicine from Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Wash.

New Radiology Chair at Graduate School of Medicine

J. Mark McKinney, MD, has been named chair of the Department of Radiology in the UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville. He joined the GSM on September 1.

“We are very pleased to bring Dr. McKinney on board as the chair of Radiology. He has a unique set of skills, including a clinical background in interventional radiology, that will be a great asset to the Graduate School,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine.

One of Dr. McKinney’s goals in this position is to implement an interventional radiology program, which will offer patients minimally invasive procedures that require imaging for guidance.

A native of Greeneville, Tenn., Dr. McKinney previously worked with the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., serving as chair of the Radiology Practice Team; assistant program director of the Radiology Residency Program for the Department of Radiology; assistant professor of Radiology for the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine; and section head of Interventional Radiology for the Department of Radiology.

Dr. McKinney earned his medical degree at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif., where he also completed his residency in diagnostic radiology and fellowship training in interventional radiology. He was appointed chief resident during his residency.

New Protein May Be Important Target for Cancer Therapy

Scientists in the Human Immunology and Cancer Program at the UT Graduate School of Medicine have identified a structurally unique protein in dental and other epithelial cancers termed odontogenic ameloblast-associated protein (ODAM), a finding of potential diagnostic and therapeutic impact. This study is featured in the May/June issue of Molecular Medicine.

The discovery emanated from the findings of Alan Solomon, MD, director, UT GSM Human Immunology and Cancer/Alzheimer’s Disease and Amyloid-Related Disorders Research Program, and his colleagues. They found that amyloid associated with a rare dental tumor was composed of ODAM fragments. This was the first evidence for expression of this unusual protein.

Subsequently, Dr. Solomon’s team made antibodies to ODAM, as well as recombinant ODAM, and serendipitously found this molecule expressed not only in dental tumors but other epithelial cancers, including breast, gastrointestinal and lung.

Notably, patients with these malignancies were also found to have significant titers of anti-ODAM antibodies in their blood.

“This suggests some type of immune reaction against the tumor and that ODAM may be an important target for cancer therapy,” said Daniel Kestler, PhD, a lead researcher in the study. “Our current efforts are directed toward delineating why ODAM is expressed in these cancers, as well as the function of this protein, its role in tumorigenesis, and, especially, if it can serve as a novel tumor biomarker.”

Dr. Kestler and his colleagues believe that ODAM will prove important in the initiation and growth of epithelial cancers and the anti-ODAM immune response may have prognostic significance.

“This is an example of an academic medical center at its best: always working to find answers, new ways of studying a problem and new treatments, and then advancing these treatments more quickly to help people,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine. The GSM is a UTHSC College of Medicine campus.

Emergency Preparedness Guide Ready

The Office of Safety Affairs has developed a new UTHSC Emergency Preparedness Guide that provides information to help the Memphis campus community respond promptly and effectively in the case of a natural disaster or other emergency occurring on campus.

This quick reference guide is a tool for the university to maintain its campus safety goal with maximum order in the event of an emergency or abnormal condition.

The guide is divided into sections which include unsafe conditions, injury or illness, suspicious mail, bomb threat, fire, emergency evacuation, natural disasters, hazardous waste disposals and inclement weather operations. Each section contains pertinent information and telephone numbers that will direct faculty and staff in the event of an emergency.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the Emergency Preparedness Guide, please contact the Office of Safety Affairs at (901) 448-7374 or visit www.utmem.edu/safety.
Psychiatry, Medicine Collaboration Receives National Attention

What began as coffee and lunch conversations between James Greene, MD, professor and chair of Psychiatry, and David Maness, DO, professor and chair of Family Medicine, has led to a first-of-its-kind continuing medical education (CME) course and a feature story in Psychiatry News, the newspaper of the American Psychiatric Association (APA).

The newspaper sent a writer to Memphis from Arlington, Va., to cover the 40th Review Course for the Family Physician and the First Joint Family Medicine/Psychiatry CME Conference on June 18 to 20, and to interview the UTHSC doctors. The article, printed in the July 18th edition, is titled “Teamwork Helps Family Medicine, Psychiatry Break Down Walls.”

Drs. Greene and Maness share an open-mindedness to collaborate with other departments, which was the catalyst for their leisurely discussions. Patients often require medical attention as well as psychiatric care. With the increasingly common link between patients of primary care physicians and psychiatrists, it was natural to provide collaborative training to achieve their ultimate goal — to better prepare their students to care for their patients.

Many physicians treat patients who require medical attention for other illnesses. “Psychiatric illnesses, such as schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder, and anxiety disorders, are known to primarily have a biological basis, and thus have become medical specialties akin to all other medical specialties,” explained Dr. Greene. These occurrences will accelerate the need to more closely integrate training and practice of Psychiatry and Primary Care, he added. Subsequently, many psychiatrists find themselves treating patients for more than psychiatric illnesses. “Psychiatrists frequently see co-morbidities (having two diseases at one time) in their patients pertinent to any practice, such as pediatrics, cardiology, hypertension, diabetes and dermatology. All these areas represent problems psychiatrists see frequently as co-morbidities in their patients,” said Greene.

While there is a natural overlap of symptoms in patients between the two fields, there is not much opportunity for doctors from

Changes Under Way to Recruitment, Selection Process

Over the next few weeks, the UTHSC campus will see some changes with the Recruitment and Selection Process for applicants. Though these changes will be somewhat minor in detail the results should be very favorable to the hiring unit and applicants in general. For a number of years, the recruitment and selection process has remained the same with very little deviation from when ORACLE was initiated. In order to be more compliant with employment laws and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs guidelines, a strong emphasis will be placed on the number of days a position is to “post” and how interviews will be arranged and conducted.

Non-exempt positions will continue to be posted for a minimum of five working days but the employment recruiters within HR will communicate directly with the applicants prior to any dissemination of information to the hiring unit.

Exempt positions will post for a minimum of 10 working days to allow adequate time for advertising, screening and assembling a good applicant pool. Communication to the applicants concerning requirements, benefits and salary will be initiated by the employment recruiters.

There will be “closing” dates for each position that is posted on the UTHSC web site; however, the hiring department may extend that date if there is not a strong applicant pool.

HR will hold meetings with directors, business managers and other hiring individuals over the next few weeks to start the implementation of this new endeavor. Please be on the lookout for the dates and locations for these meetings.

GSM Employees Earn Excellence Awards

The UT Graduate School of Medicine recently honored employees with its Excellence Awards. The awards are given to staff members who go beyond the scope of their jobs by providing outstanding job performance, courtesy and customer service, community service and leadership. The 2008 Excellence Award recipients are:

- Excellence in Leadership: Pamela Guider, administrative specialist, Department of Pathology
- Excellence in Job Performance: Melanie Hurst, administrative specialist, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Excellence in Courtesy and Customer Service: Don Peruski, helpdesk manager, Information Technology
- Excellence in Community Service: Nell West, library aide, Preston Medical Library and Learning Resource Center

Pediatric Research Day

Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center hosted Pediatric Research Day on Tuesday, October 14, to present research programs aimed at helping children. Morning sessions featured information on basic science, clinical and translational research programs, along with patient care and community educational programs conducted at Le Bonheur. The afternoon session featured oral presentations of selected posters.

Research Day was conducted in Le Bonheur Children’s Auditorium. Presentations were free to attend, and no registration was required. Robert H. Lustig, MD, presented the keynote speech on his research subject, “The Trouble with Fructose.” Dr. Lustig is the 2008 James C. Hunt Visiting Professor in Pediatrics.

Attendees were able to meet investigators and collaborators from Le Bonheur, the UTHSC Department of Pediatrics, the Children’s Foundation Research Center, Morgan Foundation and University of Tennessee Health Science Center Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

For more information, call the Children’s Foundation Research Center at (901) 287-5355 or visit www.lebonheur.org.
Laymen Ministry Focuses on Men’s Health

On August 7, UTHSC Chief of Staff and Executive Vice Chancellor Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, was the featured speaker at the 72nd Annual Session of the Memphis District Association (MDA) Laymen Ministry. The three-part Men’s Health Series convened at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church on South Parkway East.

UTHSC partnered with MDA in March to assist in the effort to improve the health status of men in the Memphis area. Dr. Brown spoke about health disparities in African-Americans with emphasis on black men. He focused on the importance of preventive health measures – health screenings and routine medical care.

MDA’s Annual Session began on August 4 and ended with an installation service on August 8.

UT Knoxville Names Interim Vice Chancellor for Communications

Margie Nichols, chief of staff to the university president, was named interim vice chancellor for Communications for the Knoxville campus, succeeding Tom Milligan. Tom left in September to become executive vice chancellor for university relations at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Margie joined UT in November 2007 as a member of the president’s senior staff. Having spent the past several months developing the chief of staff position, she leaves the office in a good posture to go forward.

Her background and experience make her uniquely qualified to head the strong communications and marketing team at UT Knoxville that includes media relations, creative communications and video and photo services. Under Margie’s leadership, this team will be able to continue its success in promoting the flagship campus and its unique role in the state.

Margie is highly respected within the community and has good insight into how the university functions. She has served as past president of the Executive Women’s Association and is a former member of the UT National Alumni Association Board of Governors Executive Committee. She is a former chair of the UT Knoxville Chancellor’s Associates, and she has a bachelor’s degree in English from UT Martin.

Before joining UT, Margie was senior director of Communications and Government relations for Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam. She joined Haslam’s senior staff in January 2004 with responsibility for internal and external communications for the city. She worked for 25 years in television news, including an eight-year stint as news director at WBIR-TV in Knoxville, and in positions with Nashville and Memphis TV stations.

We appreciate Tom’s contributions and are pleased to have someone of Margie’s caliber to continue in leadership. The communications group at UTK has developed into an important aspect of the chancellor’s staff over the past few years and has played an instrumental role in moving UT Knoxville forward.

Katie High, PhD, University of Tennessee interim vice president for Academic Affairs and Student Success, has been appointed to succeed Nichols. For more information, please refer to page 11.

Communications and Marketing Earns Two Gold Awards

The Communications and Marketing Department was presented with two gold awards on September 10, at the 16th Annual Vox Awards sponsored by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Memphis Chapter. Both The Record and Medicine Magazine were recognized.

The Vox Awards are sponsored annually to honor outstanding achievements of communications professionals in all sectors of business including agencies, corporations, media and non-profit organizations. More than 80 submissions were made for VOX Awards this year.
A team of innovative ophthalmology researchers at the world-renowned Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI), UT College of Medicine, has helped investigators achieve a revolutionary discovery. The team, led by Alessandro Iannaccone, MD, MS, associate professor, Department of Ophthalmology, concluded that Duane’s Retraction Syndrome is linked to mutations in gene coding (alpha2-chimaerin).

The syndrome is a muscle disorder that causes abnormal eye movements. Alpha2-chimaerin is a protein that develops nerve fibers to locate eye muscles that aid in standard eye movement.

Researchers Elizabeth Engle, MD, Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, and colleagues from Harvard Medical School and Children’s Hospital Boston were diligently working on a Science magazine paper titled, “Human CHN1 Mutations Hyperactivate a2-chimaerin and Cause Duane’s Retraction Syndrome.” The pertinent data the researchers lacked was information from families with the hereditary eye disorder.

A family from Italy with children who battled the disorder caught the attention of Dr. Iannaccone. He brought the family to the United States for further research and treatment, as well as to study the causes of Duane’s Retraction Syndrome. The syndrome is present from birth but often goes unrecognized during infancy. Studies show that it affects girls more often than boys. The likelihood of being affected is not determined by race or ethnic group.

There are several different types of Duane’s syndrome. The disease affects patients’ ability to move their eyes outward or inward. Other characteristics include tilted head position, the appearance that the affected eye is smaller than the other, upward or downward movement of the eye and amblyopia — reduced vision in the affected eye. It sometimes requires surgery for the reduction of strabismus or to eliminate a socially unacceptable head tilting. In strabismus, the eyes may be misaligned and point in different directions at all times, sometimes referred to as a lazy eye.

The HEI physician’s work with the Italian family attracted interest from Dr. Engle, who is based in Chevy Chase, MD. Dr. Iannaccone, whose patients and staff often refer to him as Dr. I, submitted data from his research and treatment of the family. As a result, he is recognized as a major contributor to the Science paper. Science describes itself as the world’s leading journal of original scientific research, global news, and commentary.

“Our role was two-fold,” said Dr. Iannaccone. “First, we collected samples from families with this uncommon, but by no means rare, motility disorder. Second, I personally performed all statistical analyses presented in the paper for experiments that were done at Harvard,” he added.

Caring for families with eye disorders is Dr. I’s passion. In addition to his role on the HEI faculty, he is director of Retinal Degeneration and Ophthalmic Genetics Service and supervises operation of the Lion’s Visual Function Diagnostic Lab. Both facilities are located at UT Health Science Center’s HEI.

He often relies heavily on the expertise of Natalie C. Kerr, MD, FACS, Hiatt Professor of Pediatric Ophthalmology and director of the Department of Ophthalmology and Pediatrics Residency Program, and Mary Ellen Hoehn, MD, assistant professor, Department of Ophthalmology and Pediatrics. These two physicians focus their research at UTHSC and UT Medical Group on pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus.

Dr. I and Dr. Kerr with the expertise of Dr. Hoehn have decided to expand on the success of research from the Science paper. They are set to begin a systematic collaboration aimed at recruiting individuals with familial forms of ocular motility disorders.

**Boling Center Holds Camp for Children with ADHD**

The 2008 All Days are Happy Days Camp for children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder was held at the Jewish Community Center June 1 to 4. The camp hosted 66 children and 45 counselors along with professional staff from the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities.

The primary goal of the All Days are Happy Days Camp is to educate children and their parents about the diagnosis, treatment and self-management of ADHD and related behaviors. As the only program of its kind in the area, the camp combines traditional outdoor camp activities with educational classes in order to provide an avenue for these children to engage in planned activities, increase their self-esteem, develop and maintain friendships, increase their knowledge of ADHD, and learn appropriate problem-solving behaviors.

The camp activities are targeted to help manage ADHD symptoms such as inattention, impulsivity and hyperactivity. The staff of the Boling Center appreciates the financial support received from the Office of Community Affairs, the Herbert and Mary Shainberg Foundation, Cummins Inc., and the Jewish Community Center. For more information regarding upcoming camp activities, please call 448-6669.

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each specialty to train together on a local or national scale. Recognizing this, Drs. Greene and Maness collaborated to form the joint Family Medicine/Psychiatry CME conference. It marked the first combined CME course in the university’s 97-year history. Family practitioners and physicians experienced presentations and panels pertaining to both fields including:

- Wellness is More than the Absence of Illness: An Integral Model of Health
- Psychiatry Interface: Achieving the Optimal Consultation — Psychiatric Emergencies, The Troubled Teen, Psychopharmacologic Agents in Children and Adolescents
- Telepsychiatry
- Depression in the Elderly
- Dementia
- Sleep Disorders and Delirium
- Evaluating Suicide Risk
- Psychiatric Complications of HIV/AIDS
- Mood Disorders in African-American Women
- ADHD
- What’s New in Cardiology: Hyperlipidemia Today
- Update on Type 2 Diabetes
- Psychopharmacology for the Family Physician
- Chronic Pain Management

This uniquely combined CME captured the attention of Psychiatry News, which is distributed to 38,000 APA members and is the source of clinical and research news, as well as the principal and official means of communication of policies, legislative and judicial issues affecting psychiatry.

After a very successful CME course that received excellent ratings, Drs. Greene and Maness have already begun working on the 2009 Family Medicine/Psychiatry Review Course, set for March 26 to 29, 2009. They are also working together on a number of projects including an effort to obtain joint grants with other specialties to further support their goal to prepare students and doctors to better care for their patients. Dr. Greene sums up their mission in one sentence, “Those who train together find it easier to work and practice together.”

Influences on Practice, Risks of Medications

What socioeconomic influences impact oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS) practice, and what effect do Gen X and Gen Y have on the OMS professional? These influences, as well as discussion of risks of certain medications used in OMS procedures, will be the topics of the biennial Dr. R. Ben Alley Lecture Series. The event will be held on November 8 from 7 a.m. to noon, at the Morrison’s Conference Center, UT Medical Center, Knoxville.

The only conference of its kind in the region, the Alley Lecture will be led by Leon Assael, DMD, professor and chair, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry, and a graduate of Columbia, Harvard and Vanderbilt universities.

Registration for this important lecture is available online at www.tennessee.edu/cme/BenAlley2008, and early registration ends November 3.

Seating is limited. The Dr. R. Ben Alley Lecture Series is presented by the UT Graduate School of Medicine and Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The lecture series is directed by Eric Carlson, DMD, MD, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

The biennial Dr. R. Ben Alley Lecture Series is made possible through a memorial endowment fund established by Dr. Alley’s family, colleagues, patients and friends.

Research Institutions Reach Meeting of the Minds

The UTHSC Alpha Omega Alpha Beta Tennessee Chapter and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital have joined forces to promote an intellectual exchange.

The two top-notch health care institutions will host their second annual seminar, the 2008 UTHSC Alpha Omega Alpha/St. Jude Research Lectureship. The lecture will feature speaker Michael A. Dyer, PhD, associate member in the Department of Developmental Neurobiology at St. Jude and UTHSC associate professor in Ophthalmology. Dr. Dyer will discuss his cutting-edge research in cancer genetics. The topic of his address is “Retinoblastoma: Bridging Developmental Neurobiology and Cancer Genetics.”

Scientists have discovered that there are specific genes that can contribute to the expansion of some forms of cancer. Retinoblastoma is a cancer of the retina. It is the third most common cancer in infants following leukemia and neuroblastoma (nerve cancer). Development of this eye tumor is initiated by mutations that inactivate both copies of the cancer-causing gene, RB1. Dr. Dyer and his team are responsible for developing a reliable mouse model of retinoblastoma that can be used as drug therapies for the tumor.

“Our study gives us important new information on the normal development of the retina and suggests new studies that could lead to the design of more effective drugs to treat retinoblastoma,” said Dr. Dyer. The lecture will offer progressive information on the developmental concept of neurobiology and cancer genetics. Retinoblastoma is a growing concern for medical students and researchers. Attendees will leave with a wealth of information that will enhance future studies for this form of cancer research.

The lecture series will be held on November 7 at noon in the Link Building Auditorium at 855 Monroe Avenue. A poster session featuring research documentation from students at the UT College of Medicine will precede the lectureship beginning at 11:00 a.m. Lunch is provided for the first 80 people.

The Beta Tennessee Chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society aims to promote scholarship and research in medical schools.

For more information, please contact Debsey Hester at (901) 448-5531.

Research continued from page 9

Dr. Kerr is leading the recruitment process, which will be an ongoing task. In turn, they will forward the DNA samples to Dr. Engle in Chevy Chase to expand on the important research in this field.

“Duane’s Retraction Syndrome is a fairly unusual disorder,” Dr. Kerr said. Many patients will experience more symptoms that become increasingly worse without proper treatment. “People with this syndrome have difficulty rotating one or both eyes. Ten percent of all childhood strabismus expands over time to include more diagnoses,” she noted.

“It is out of these collaborations that advancements are made,” said Dr. I. “Dr. Engle alone, who is not an ophthalmologist, would not be able to discover the new genes for these diseases without the collaboration of people like us worldwide,” he observed. “It’s a true team effort.”

For more information or to participate in the study, please contact Dr. Kerr in the Department of Ophthalmology at 448-6650.
New Robotic System at Methodist University Hospital Aids Surgeons with Minimally Invasive Procedures

The first patient to undergo a procedure using the new surgical robot at Methodist University Hospital had a hysterectomy earlier this week and returned home later that same evening. Hysterectomies typically require a three to four-day hospital stay.

“Rather than a long scar down her abdomen, this patient has four very small incisions on her abdomen,” said Todd D. Tillmanns, MD, associate professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Root Center for Women and Newborns, UTHSC College of Medicine, who performed the surgery. “She will be back to her normal routine much faster.”

Around 5 p.m. the day of her surgery, the patient said she felt good, but was “a little sore.” She was grateful to Dr. Tillmanns, his resident Mercedes Sayago, MD, and the entire surgical and nursing team. “Every one has been so nice. I feel blessed to be living in a time when medicine is so advanced.”

Dr. Tillmanns is one of a growing number of surgeons taking modern medicine to the next level with robotics, and Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare wants to support those physicians.

“We are thrilled to be able to have this technology for our physicians. Many were anxious to get the system, since the Intuitive da Vinci-S Surgical System is the most advanced robotic surgical system available,” said Vic Perini, vice president of operations at Methodist University Hospital in midtown Memphis.

Methodist North Hospital received the robotic system last fall. The da Vinci-S, a minimally invasive surgical system, provides surgeons with enhanced features including an interactive video display, lower profile arms and greater mobility.

“The da Vinci-S robotic system has given us the ability to see with greater clarity and perform complex and delicate procedures more effectively while offering the patient the most minimally invasive surgery possible,” says Richard Pearson, MD, a urologist who uses the system at both hospitals. “In our experience, this has meant a better operation for the patient with reduced complications, hospital stays and recovery time.”

It is not just the physicians, but the entire team of nurses, anesthesiologists and technicians who receive special training to use the da Vinci-S robotic system.

The da Vinci system lends a mechanical helping hand to surgeons who use them for unprecedented control and precision. Using a high-powered camera, the surgeon guides the robot’s four arms — that hold surgical tools which are inserted into the patient through small, keyhole-sized incisions. The system’s ergonomic design allows the surgeon to operate from a comfortable, seated position at the console, with the eyes and hands positioned in-line with the instruments. At the same time, the state-of-the-art robotic and computer technologies scale, filter and seamlessly translate the surgeon’s delicate hand manipulations into precise micro-movements of the instruments. In addition, the da Vinci’s video monitoring system provides a three-dimensional view of the surgery with magnification 10 times that of the naked eye.

Dr. Tillmanns said the new Memphis Robotics Society also had its inaugural meeting a few weeks ago and includes physicians from the medical disciplines of cardiothoracic, colorectal, gynecologic oncology, gynecologic and urologic surgery.

“It is so exciting to be able to meet and discuss robotics with a group of physicians who are united to bring this remarkable advance in health care to patients in the Mid-South,” said Dr. Tillmanns.

Katie High Named President’s Chief of Staff

Katie High, PhD, University of Tennessee interim vice president for Academic Affairs and Student Success, was appointed chief of staff by John D. Petersen, PhD, president of the University of Tennessee.

“I am pleased to have someone with Katie’s extensive depth and breadth of experience at the University of Tennessee able to step into this key role for the university as a member of my senior staff,” said Petersen. “She brings critical insight into both higher education and the University of Tennessee, an insight developed during her more than 20 years with UT. I look forward to working with her in pushing forward the university’s agenda,” he added.

In 2005, Katie was named associate vice president for academic affairs and student success, a post she held until being appointed interim vice president for that office on Jan. 1, 2008. From 2001 to 2005, she was vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she oversaw admissions, financial aid and all student services.

Katie received a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Tennessee in 1982, and she has been on university staff in a variety of capacities for more than 25 years. She formerly has served as director of management development, director of licensing, associate senior vice president and chief of staff to the president.

Katie succeeded Margie Nichols, who left the chief of staff position to become vice chancellor of Communications and Marketing for the UT’s flagship Knoxville campus effective September 1.

Katie is a native of Ohio and a graduate of Miami University, where she received bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She taught public school in Knoxville and Clinton for nine years.

She is the current chair of the Tennessee American College Testing (ACT) Policy Council and has served on the advisory board of First Citizens Bank and the Weakley-Obion County Drug Court. She is past president of the Weakley County Carl Perkins Child Abuse Prevention Center, the Martin Literary Guild, the Martin Rotary Club and the Knoxville Metropolitan Drug Commission.

Katie is a consultant with schools, government agencies and private businesses throughout the country.
On September 22, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, announced the appointment of Timothy L. Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA, as dean for the UT College of Dentistry. Dr. Hottel is expected to arrive in Memphis to assume his new responsibilities by January 1.

“We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Hottel to our Health Science Center community,” stated Chancellor Wall.

“Through his 35-year academic career, he has developed the wide variety of skills required to succeed as our Dentistry dean. Dr. Hottel’s experience collaborating with administration, faculty and staff, as well as his background with financial and student issues, will be of tremendous benefit both to his college and to our institution as a whole.” Dr. Hottel was appointed after a seven-month national search.

Currently, Dr. Hottel holds several senior-level positions at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Fla. He has been with NSU since 1998 and has accepted roles with increasing responsibility over the years. Dr. Hottel currently serves NSU as executive associate dean and chief financial officer, associate dean for Academic and Financial Affairs, division chief for Primary Care, professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, and interim chair, Department of Cariology and Restorative Dentistry.

Prior to joining NSU, he was with Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, from 1973 to 1998. Starting as an instructor, he earned a number of academic and administrative appointments, including director of Dental Clinics for the Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland, administrative director for the Post Graduate Program in Dental Implant Prosthodontics, and associate professor in the School of Dentistry. He also served as director of the Dental Materials Program at Lorain County Community College, Department of Dental Hygiene, Elyria, Ohio.

Throughout his career, Dr. Hottel has been an active member of numerous university organizations and industry associations, taking an active role to support faculty, student, research and academic dental groups. He has received a variety of university and teaching awards, and donated a tremendous amount of time and energy to community service. In addition, he has authored, edited or contributed to nearly 100 journal articles, abstracts, poster presentations, table clinics, books, industry publications and graduate thesis committees.

Dr. Hottel arrived on campus, Dr. Patters, who has been with UTHSC since 1988, will relinquish his interim role and continue his position as associate dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Dentistry.

The Heredity Project – Health Promotion through Genetic Literacy

Does a health problem such as Type 2 Diabetes run in your family? Gain a better understanding of how genes and environment combine to influence health. Vicki Park, PhD, UTHSC Department of Pediatrics, is developing the Heredity Project as an educational program to meet this need in Memphis and beyond. The project uses a community partnership approach to develop educational resources that are both informative and easy to understand.

UTHSC staff can be part of this partnership by attending a presentation given by Dr. Park. At each session, participants learn how genes and the environment combine to influence health, using Type 2 Diabetes as an example. Participants also learn how a family health history can be used to plan for a healthier future. Enrollment is available through the Human Resources HR128 Training Calendar.

The Heredity Project is an education research project that is developing easy-to-understand materials intended to help the general public understand the role of genetics in health care. The Heredity Project is part of an NIH-sponsored Science Education Partnership Award, “Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy,” which is directed by Robert Shreve, EdD. The presentation is geared toward a family perspective; no knowledge of genetics is required.

During the session, participants will have the option to use a wireless keypad to provide anonymous feedback. Audience feedback will be used for future program development. For more information, please contact Dr. Park at 448-7174.

Undergraduate Neuroscience Fellowship

The UT Neuroscience Institute recently awarded the 2008-2009 Merit Fellowships for Undergraduate Neuroscience Research to two area students, who began working in UTHSC labs this summer.

Michael Antone of Christian Brothers University and Daniel Wilkinson of Rhodes College were selected by a committee at their respective institutions based on their academic excellence and strong interest in neuroscience.

Michael will be working with Kristin Hamre, PhD, in anatomy and neurobiology, who studies the interaction between genetics and the nervous system. Daniel will be working with Charles W. Leffler, PhD, in physiology, who studies newborn cardiovascular regulation, with particular emphasis on control of cerebral circulation.
University Bids Farewell to Retirees

Since July, more than 30 employees have retired from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, many of whom have given a great part of their lives to serving the institution. These fine individuals have said goodbye to their roles as professors, nurses, police officers and more to enjoy all of the benefits that retirement has to offer.

The UT Health Science Center thanks all the retirees for their dedication and service. Their expertise and contribution to health care is greatly appreciated.

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In Memoriam

UTHSC sends condolences to the family of Alfred Kraus, MD, pioneer and lifelong advocate of sickle cell research and the care of sickle cell patients.

Dr. Kraus passed away in his home on Tuesday, July 22. For more than five decades, Dr. Kraus and his wife Dr. Lorena M. Kraus, MD, were internationally known for their numerous contributions to sickle cell disease. The impact of their years of research deemed the University of Tennessee a highly acclaimed sickle cell research center.

Dr. Alfred Kraus was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1916. He immigrated to Chicago in 1938 where he trained at Michael-Reese Hospital in hematology and internal medicine. He and his family relocated to Memphis in 1950. During this time he and L.W. Diggs, MD, began to study sickle cell anemia at the UT Health Science Center.

He was instrumental in the National Institute of Health granting UTHSC $1 million and UT being named one of the 10 national sites for comprehensive research on sickle cell disease.

The Development Office is accepting donations in the name of Dr. Kraus. All proceeds will be sent to the Diggs Sickle Cell Gift Fund.

All Alfred Kraus tributes should be delivered to the Development Office, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 500, Memphis, TN 38163 – Attn: Records.

UTHSC Partners with Barnes & Noble College Booksellers

UTHSC entered into a contract with Barnes & Noble College Booksellers on July 1 to manage the three Memphis campus bookstore branches: Rocky Top Gift Shop, Tools for Success, and UTHSC Bookstore. This partnership is the result of a competitive process that involved several major college bookstore management companies.

Barnes & Noble’s vast experience in bookstore management, use of cutting-edge technology, and their commitment to integrating with the campus community will give UTHSC a best-in-class bookstore focused on providing outstanding customer service. Barnes & Noble plans to make a significant investment to renovate the UTHSC Bookstore.

Under Barnes & Noble’s management, the campus community will be treated to a full-service, multi-channel retail experience. In addition to purchasing their textbooks, course supplies, school apparel and general merchandise at the retail locations, customers can also shop 24/7 via the store’s industry-leading website (http://uthsc.bncollege.com). Along with a huge selection of new and used textbooks, there will be an expansive and entirely new selection of merchandise.

“We are thrilled to have been selected to serve such an outstanding institution of higher learning and to support the needs of their students and faculty by providing academic materials,” said Janine von Juergensson, vice president of marketing at Barnes & Noble. “We currently manage bookstores for several universities and community colleges in Tennessee and it will be a pleasure to work for such a fine and prestigious institution.”

Steve Rowland, assistant vice chancellor for Business at UTHSC, said, “We are very excited to announce the partnership with Barnes & Noble. They are a customer-focused company with expertise that will help us better serve the entire campus community. We anticipate the new store being planned for the Madison Avenue Plaza will become an on-campus destination.”

Robbie Baldwin was named UTHSC bookstore manager by Barnes & Noble. She formerly was assistant manager at The University of Memphis Bookstore.

Bookstore hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at all branches; UTHSC Bookstore, 4220, 910 Madison, Rocky Top Gift Shop (Madison Plaza), and Tools for Success (Room CB015, GEB). For additional information, call the Bookstore at 448-5623 or send an e-mail to sm637@bncollege.com.
PEOPLE

Quan Anderson has been named catering director in Dining Services. Anderson has more than 32 years of food service experience and is a graduate of Crichton College. His professional experience has taken him from Memphis to New York and back again. He is excited at the opportunity to use his culinary talent to enhance the UTHSC catering program. Please welcome Quan to our campus community.

Professor Beth Bowman has decided to return to teaching (primarily) and has stepped down as interim chair of the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM). Beth has been an excellent leader. We thank her, and we wish her well.

Susan J. Crim, RDH, MSEd, PhD, is the new chair of the Dental Hygiene Department effective August 1. Dr. Crim most recently was dental hygiene program director at the University of Louisville and comes with more than 30 years of teaching experience. She is a leader in her profession, serving on several national boards and committees. The UTHSC dental hygiene program was established in 1926 making it among the oldest programs in the country. The department offers two degrees: the bachelor of science in dental hygiene and the master of dental hygiene.

Dominic M. Desiderio, PhD, professor in the Department of Neurology and Department of Molecular Sciences, presented the lecture “Nitroproteomics of Human Pituitary” at the Functional Proteomics Center at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology in Seoul on June 28. He also presented the lecture at the Korea Basic Science Institute in Ochang on June 29, presented the lecture at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology in Seoul on June 28. He also presented the lecture “Nitroproteomics of Human Pitu...

Steve Rowland, assistant vice chancellor of Business.

Bill Mihalko, MD, PhD, was successfully recruited to serve at InMotion and the UTHSC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery – Campbell Clinic and is considered a breakthrough hire. Dr. Mihalko is an orthopaedic surgeon with an accomplished research background, specifically in computer-assisted surgery in Total Knee Replacement. Dr. Mihalko is a major coup for InMotion and Campbell, as he is a rare combination of clinical and research experience (a true “clinician scientist”).

Randall J. Nelson, PhD, professor of Anatomy and Neurorobiology has been designated the honorary title of National Associate from the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies in honor of his public service in anatomy and neurobiology. This service is valued, honored and appreciated both within the National Academies and by the nation. The NRC is recognized for its work in advising government and the public on matters of science, technology and health.

James P. Randolph, surplus property manager, was the co-winner of the first University of Tennessee Purchasing Excellence Endowment Award. The award was presented September 11 at the annual Purchasing Director’s Conference in Nashville, Tenn., by Charles M. Peccolo, vice president and treasurer of the University of Tennessee.

Peccolo commended Randolph for his dedication to the university. He noted that his “innovations have resulted in over $100,000 in cost avoidance by the redistribution of items rather than the alternative of buying new and over $50,000 through the sales of excess property.”

Rebecca Reynolds, PhD, has been appointed interim chair of the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM) effective September 1. Dr. Reynolds is currently director of the online master’s of HIIM program. Recognized for her expertise in HIPPA privacy and security issues, Dr. Reynolds has provided HIPPA education and training throughout the UTHSC system. The department offers two degrees: the bachelor of science in HIPPA and the master of HIIM.

William J. Rudman, PhD, is the new associate dean for Academic Affairs and Research and professor in Health Informatics and Information Management. He was formerly professor of Diagnostic and Clinical Health Sciences at the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s School of Health-Related Professions along with having a joint appointment as professor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine at UMMC. He is co-director of the Institute for Improvement of Patient Geographic and Minority Disparity, and co-director for the Center on Patient Safety and Surveillance at the University of Mississippi.

Jerome Thompson, MD, MBA, chairman, Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at University of Tennessee Health Science Center, conducted a study on surgery outcomes using the first flexible CO2 laser scalp. He was recently recognized by Forbes. The study was introduced at the Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meeting 2008 in Orlando, Fla.

“The pediatric suprastomal fibroma study demonstrated that the use of a flexible CO2 laser fiber improves quality of care and clinical outcomes on several levels,” said Dr. Thompson. Specific study results include: decreased need for follow-up procedures, increased rate of postoperative decannulation and hospitalization time.

Chandra West-Alston, MBA, is the new assistant dean for administration in the College of Allied Health Sciences. Chandra will begin her new role in November. She comes to the college with more than 14 years of experience in training, management and human resources. Her Master of Business Administration degree is from Union University and she is enrolled in the EdD Instructional Design and Technology program at the University of Memphis. A friend and colleague of many at the UTHSC, Chandra currently is interim assistant director in Human Resources.

Staff Digest Reminder
In order to enable faculty, staff and students to stay involved in the details surrounding campus activities, it is important to take two to three minutes to read the staff digest.

Delivered at noon each day, the digest collects various announcements and bundles them as a single e-mail that includes a table of contents and information about happenings in the campus community. Please take time to read the staff digest.
McAdams Retires After 29 Years

Barbara McAdams has very capably led the alumni office and alumni staff at UTHSC for more than 29 years. On June 30, Bar bara retired and our university lost a very dedicated employee as well as a passionate supporter of alumni programming at UTHSC. She advanced our Alumni Affairs office operations and helped build a strong college-oriented alumni program. We all appreciate Barbara’s work, dedication and leadership on behalf of the University of Tennessee.

As we move forward, we will begin immediately to search for a dynamic, energetic person to lead our alumni operations. Our plan is to work with our campus leadership to coordinate this search, and we will keep our alumni informed of our progress. We anticipate the search to be completed prior to the start of the calendar year.

During the interim, while the search is being conducted, Lofton Stuart, executive director, UT Alumni Association, and special assistant to the president, and Linda Garceau-Luis, vice chancellor, Development and Alumni Affairs, have asked Kris Phillips, a veteran director in the system-wide alumni office, to come to Memphis three days a week to work with our other alumni staff members. He will assist in evaluating our alumni office operations and assure we continue to move forward and support the many wonderful initiatives on behalf of our college alumni programs.

Kris brings 11 years of advancement experience to this new role, having served in various alumni leadership roles at both the University of Tennessee as well as his alma mater, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn.

It is an exciting time to be involved with the University of Tennessee. We have embarked upon the largest fund-raising campaign in UT’s history – The Campaign for Tennessee. As we diligently work with both our alumni and development staffs toward the university’s goal of $1 billion, we will continue to provide staffing for alumni activities as well as seek new ways to be of service to the alumni and our university.

Professor Featured in the Journal of the American Medical Association

David M. Mirvis, MD, professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine, was featured in the July 2 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) for his commentary, “Population Health and Economic Development in the United States.” The commentary was written with David E. Bloom, PhD, professor at Harvard School of Public Health.

The focus of the commentary is to discuss the issue of population health, a method that aims to improve the well-being of individuals of different economic backgrounds. Dr. Mirvis points out that individuals in the United States should look at the growing amount of health problems that are studied in population health as an asset to society and not an expense. “The main point is to reframe the nature of health care expenditures to investments,” said Dr. Mirvis. Population health goes beyond mainstream medicine and public health by addressing the inequality of service to individuals in a lower socio-economic status.

The commentary addresses a broad range of factors that impact health in different levels of population such as environment, social structure, resources, etc. A key factor in population health is the importance of social health improvements and the impact that medicine and health care have on overall lifestyles.

Health improvements can result in employee/employer productivity, healthier children and a better workforce pool. Improved population health also promotes a better U.S. economy. According to Dr. Mirvis, these concepts suggest that improvements to the health care system in the entire population from an economic view is necessary, and should be viewed as an investment in our economy and our society.

GRANTS

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

Jack Buchanan, MD
National Institute of General Medical Science $206,371
“Grid Based Modeling of Electrical Propagation in Excitable Tissue”

Veronica G. Conoley
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease $29,735
“NS1 Protein of H5N1 Disrupts Epithelial Barrier of the Gut and Lung”

George Cook, PhD
American Heart Association $77,000
“Fatty Acid Oxidation Control in the Heart”

Ioannis Dragatsis, PhD
CHDI Foundation $269,600
“Need for Huntingtin in the Mature CNS”

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke $1,277,500
“Role of NGF in Familial Dysautononia”

George Kabalka, PhD
Department of Energy $440,468
“Development of Reactive Solid State Reagent for Preparing Radiolabeled Imaging Agent”

Ryoichi Teruyama, PhD
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute $208,150
“Epithelial Sodium Channels in the Supraoptic and Oxytocin Neurons”

Jena Jean Steenle, PhD
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation $209,796
“Pre-Clinical Testing of Isoproteotenol Eye Drops for NPDR”

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases $368,866
“Analysis of Radiotagavite Cell Signaling”

Robert Walker
National Eye Institute $30,939
“Bete-Adrenergic Receptor Modulation of Insulin Signaling”

Karl Weber, MD
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute $306,500
“Recovery from Cachexia in Heart and Skeletal Muscle”

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute $346,086
“Alidosterone: An Immunostimulatory State”

Robert Williams, PhD
National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism $230,361
“Systems Genetics of the HPA”

View past issues of The RECORD at www.utmem.edu/record
Employee Service Recognition Brings Back Memories

Memories and triumphs of the last 45 years were shared at the Employee Service Recognition Luncheon on July 31. The only painful recollection that was disclosed during the event, which honors employees who have 25 to 50-plus years of service in the increments of five, was the change in the price of gas.

During the luncheon, the Office of Equity and Diversity provided a presentation that highlighted what was happening in the world when each of the employees began working at the UT Health Science Center. In 1963, when Robert Wilroy, Jr., MD, professor in pediatrics, came to UTHSC, the price of gas was 30 cents per gallon.

The administration shared more heartfelt memories. Deans and vice chancellors recognized each employee from their areas individually as they called honorees to the front of the Student-Alumni Center dining hall to receive a certificate and have a picture taken. Brief tales of first encounters or how personal hobbies have come in handy at the Health Science Center were recounted during the presentations.

“I see some senior citizens on this list; it’s nice to be in good company,” Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, jokingly began. “I also see old friends.

“It is important for us to recognize you for what you have done to serve this institution,” he continued. “We appreciate your loyalty, dedication and commitment to the flagship Health Science Center of this state. I hope you are here for another 40 years.”

Chief of Staff and Executive Vice Chancellor Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, also offered his appreciation to let the honored employees know that the administration is not indifferent to the contributions they make. “The UT Health Science Center is not just a place – it is the people that show up here every day,” he said.

Forty employees were honored at this biannual celebration. Presentations of acknowledgement were made by Dr. Brown; Cheryl Scheid, PhD, vice chancellor for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs; Mark Patters, DDS, PhD, interim dean for the College of Dentistry; Tony Ferrara, CPA, MAS, vice chancellor for Finance and Operations; Dick Gourley, PharmD, dean of the College of Pharmacy; Donna Hathaway, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing; William Taylor, PhD, director of the Molecular Resource Center; and Tim Mashburn, MBA, executive associate dean in the College of Medicine. (Because Vice Chancellor of Research Leonard R. Johnson, PhD, and Executive Dean for the College of Medicine Steve Schwab, MD, were unable to attend, Dr. Taylor and Mashburn made the presentations for their respective areas on these leader’s behalf.) Closing remarks were made by Michael Alston, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity.

25 Years

Raoul Arreola, PhD, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor
Victoria Barbee, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Admin. Aide
Victoria Calvin, Pediatrics, Senior Admin. Services Asst.
Glenda Climer, Family Practice Clinic – St. Francis, Admin. Secretary
Brenda Deane, Academic Affairs, Senior Admin. Services Asst.
Gwenna Doty, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Accounting Asst.
Anne Marie Estes, Pharmacology, Research Asst.
Robin Ferrell, Bookstore, Senior Admin. Services Asst.
Julius Jennings, Building Maintenance, Senior Painter
Rebecca Joyner, Facilities Planning, Manager
Hitoshi Kita, PhD, Anatomy and Neurobiology, Professor
Michael Levinson, MD, Medicine-Gastroenterology, Associate Professor
Myron Lewis, MD, Medicine-Gastroenterology, Associate Professor
Jeddie Maxwell, Academic Affairs, Administrative Aide
James McCune, VC for Finance and Operations, Assistant Director
Shirleyorman, VC for Finance and Operations, Cash Management Specialist
Delores Moss, Custodial Services, Senior Custodian
Douglas Shanklin, MD, Pathology, Professor
Richard Smith, PhD, Orthopaedic Surgery, Assistant Professor
Lisa Trenthem, Surgery, General Research Medical Tech.
Steven Vanvoorst, Surgery, Associate Professor
Felicia Walker, Molecular Resource Center, Specialist
Lue Ida Walls-Upchurch, Campus Police, Chief of Police

30 Years

Willie Buford, Custodial Services, Building Services Supervisor
Connie Burgess, Nursing-Research Programs, Senior Admin. Services Asst.
Johnny Crisler, Medicine, Endocrinology Medical Technologist
Ruby Neil Foster, Physiology, Senior Budget Assistant
Dorothy Lanier, Molecular Sciences, Accounting Assistant
Betty Massey, Educational Development, Senior Laboratory Aide
Bernell Rogers, Administration – College of Dentistry, Accounting Assistant
Gary Tolley, Administration – College of Dentistry, Assistant Vice Chancellor
Franklin Williams, Family Medicine, Coordinator

35 Years

Linda Mills, Medicine-Internal Medicine, Business Assistant
Judy Thompson, Mail Services, Administrative Aide
Susan Wood, Otolaryngology-Head-Neck Surgery, Administrative Assistant

40 Years

Richard Cleaves, Food Services, Food Services Supervisor
Donald Donaldson, PhD, Anatomy and Neurobiology, Professor
Irvin Fleming, MD, General Surgery, Professor
Abbas Kitabchi, MD, PhD, Medicine-Endocrinology, Professor

45 Years

Robert Wilroy, Jr., MD, Pediatrics, Professor
GRACE Magazine Recognizes UTHSC for Diversity

GRACE magazine recognized the University of Tennessee Health Science Center as a leader in promoting diversity in the workplace in its September/October issue.

Each year the staff at GRACE carefully evaluates organizations throughout the city of Memphis that practice workplace diversity. This year GRACE acknowledged 23 UTHSC team members.

Workplace diversity is an issue that concentrates on the differences and similarities that distinguish individuals and what they bring to an organization. It usually includes the same scope that is legally identified in equal opportunity and affirmative action laws. Workplace diversity is interpreted as a compilation of people, their professional experience, and their differences that combine to shape an organization.

Diversity is a concept based on inclusion. A diverse workplace is one that respects and values the differences among employee backgrounds and work styles. UTHSC has embraced the philosophy of diversity by creating a work environment that practices and fosters collaboration in addressing organizational and business issues.

UTHSC recognizes the individuality of team members and appreciates the different perspectives they bring to the culture of the organization.

GRACE’s mission is to be a positive voice for Memphis women of color and to build empowerment through knowledge, while celebrating their lives, achievements and culture. It is a bi-monthly publication and is distributed in locations throughout the Mid-South area.

The following team members were recognized in the GRACE Magazine Diversity issue.

Michael Alston, director of Equity and Diversity; Patricia Adams-Graves, MD, associate professor of Medicine; John Bossier, safety officer; Kennard D. Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, chief of staff and executive vice chancellor; Lawrence M. Brown, PharmD, PhD, director, UT Center for Medication Therapy Management and associate professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy; Rebecca A. Brown, assistant dean for Administration, College of Graduate Health Sciences; Kelly Brown-Morris, director, Development Office; Gwen Campbell, bursar; Sheila Champlin, director of Community Relations and Gynecology, Rout Center for Women and Newborns, College of Medicine; Ron K. Patterson, assistant dean for Student Affairs, College of Nursing; Petra Rencher, director of Accounting and Budget; Muriel Rice, PhD, APRN, director of the UT Health Works Program; Malrie Shelton, interim director for Community Affairs/Public Service; Bobby Thomas, assistant dean for Administration, College of Pharmacy; Chandra A. Tuggle, director of Alumni Programs; Lue Ida Wails-Uphchurch, chief of Campus Police; Chandra West-Alston, interim assistant director, Human Resources; Shelley White-Means, PhD, professor and vice chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy and Mona Wicks, PhD, RN, associate dean for Research, College of Nursing.

Christopher J. Knott-Craig Brings Pediatric Heart Surgery Skills to College of Medicine, Le Bonheur

Timothy C. Fabian, MD, chair, Department of Surgery, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center; Steve J. Schwab, MD, executive dean of the UTHSC College of Medicine; and Meri Armour, MSN, MBA, president and chief executive officer for Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, announced the appointment of Christopher J. Knott-Craig, MD, as chief of the Division of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at UTHSC and co-director of the Pediatric Cardiovascular Institute at Le Bonheur.

“Dr. Knott-Craig is an innovative surgeon with a passion for giving hope to children with congenital heart defects,” Armour observed. “Under his leadership, Le Bonheur’s Heart Institute will implement cutting-edge techniques while continuing to make contributions to the field of pediatric health care.”

Dr. Knott-Craig is an internationally known pediatric cardiovascular surgeon who currently serves as chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery and professor of Surgery at the University of Alabama Medical Center at Birmingham. Dr. Knott-Craig received his medical degree in 1977 and completed his surgical training in 1978 from the University of Cape Town, Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa.

The national search for this position was conducted by Millican Solutions, Inc., and was ably led by Thomas Chin, MD, FAAP, FACC, professor of pediatric cardiology and co-director of the Pediatric Cardiovascular Institute at Le Bonheur.

“Dr. Knott-Craig has developed a reputation as one of the foremost congenital heart surgeons in the country, and in fact, in the world,” noted Dr. Chin. “We are excited about the improved care and the new techniques he will help provide for children and adults in the Mid-South with congenital heart disease. I look forward to working with Dr. Knott-Craig as co-directors of the Pediatric Heart Institute, and welcome him to Memphis,” Dr. Chin stated.

A recognized authority in pediatric surgery, Dr. Knott-Craig has authored more than 80 publications, books, abstracts, chapters and manuscripts.

“We are excited by the addition of Dr. Knott-Craig to our emerging Pediatric Heart Institute,” said Executive Dean Schwab. “He brings UTHSC and Le Bonheur a new level of pediatric heart surgery and complements our outstanding group of pediatric cardiologists.”

Le Bonheur is currently in the midst of a fundraising campaign to build a new state-of-the-art hospital. The $327 million facility is scheduled to open in 2010 and will double the space for patient care, research and teaching. For more information, please call (901) 287-6030 or visit www.lebonheur.org.
Kimberly Washington Receives Alpha Omega Alpha Award

UT Health Science Center medical student Kimberly Washington has been awarded the Medical Student Service Project Award from Alpha Omega Alpha. The awards are given every year by the medical honor society.

Washington is a fourth-year medical student from Jackson, Miss. She applied for the student service award under the guidance of Owen Phillips, MD, associate dean of Student Affairs. The annual award process is not only open to members of the prestigious society, but to non-members as well. Winners of the project award receive $2,000 toward their project and will be available to renew funds each year.

The community service project award is geared toward increasing health awareness in the Shelby County Correctional Center’s prison system. The project started in September and will end in May. It will serve as a health education course enabling minimal security inmates to learn about different health care topics. The classes will discuss various topics on hygiene, STDs, TB, and HIV/AIDS, which is prevalent in most jail systems. Washington is also in the negotiation stages of asking for permission to pass out condoms and provide flu shots to all inmates.

Medical students in their second year and above are all volunteering to help Washington in her community service initiative. Most students will serve as teachers in the classroom. There will be two students per class session who will teach and conduct pre-tests, post-test and exams for all inmates enrolled in the course. The classes will be taught every third and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Alpha Omega Alpha was founded in 1902 to serve as the honor society for medical students.
Med Student Captures Summer Internship at InMotion

A growing internship program has drafted the city’s brightest students and is training them to become future scientists. This summer, InMotion Musculoskeletal Institute recruited four college students through their summer internship program. The program offers students the opportunity to learn research methods through actual projects. The InMotion Musculoskeletal Institute is an independent, private, not-for-profit orthopedic research laboratory that “translates ideas into treatment.” InMotion’s mission is to reduce disability and to improve mobility for the musculoskeletal patient through translational research.

InMotion’s vision is to make Memphis the center of research, innovation, and entrepreneurship for discoveries to treat musculoskeletal disease and injury. “We don’t have many clinical scientists, so we either find talent that we can bring to Memphis, or we grow it in Memphis,” said Chris Przybyszewski, director of grants and communications.

InMotion interns are given major roles in research projects. At the end of the internship, students are equipped to co-author a peer-reviewed article. They chose to copy one of the most successful programs in the world at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

A second-year student at the UTHSC College of Medicine is one of four students who participated in the summer internship. Seth Cooper, a Nashville native, teamed with UT-Campbell Clinic orthopedic surgeon Robert Heck Jr., MD, on a research project involving bone metastasis. Cooper is training to become an orthopedic surgeon with a focus on sports medicine.

“My experience at InMotion opened my eyes to the role that clinical research plays on clinical practice,” Cooper said. “It’s going to influence the rest of my career as a physician,” he added.

Cooper received a stipend paid through a grant from SunTrust Bank to complete his summer internship at InMotion.

Project Heart in Knoxville

On September 16, 24 Doctor of Pharmacy students from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, Knoxville campus, held a free blood pressure screening for the public at Wal-Mart, Walker Springs as part of Project Heart. Project Heart, a local committee of the UT College of Pharmacy, is committed to helping raise awareness and increase health care education through free blood pressure screenings in all areas of Knox County.

Stella Enyichi Nwokeji was among 50 medical and health professionals students from around the country with similar interests in prevention, leadership and public health who attended the Paul Ambrose School Program symposium in Washington, D.C., in June. This unique experience provides scholarships for students to attend a three-day leadership symposium and conduct a funded community-based health education project. Participants were selected through a competitive process.

Nwokeji’s project, “A Healthy Grandparent: An Asset to our Nation’s Economy,” has two health prevention and health promotion goals. The short-term goal includes increasing awareness on healthy living and impact of exercise in maintenance of good health. The long-term goal is to improve health, encourage health promotion, and disease prevention of grandparents in Shelby County.

Nwokeji credits her dissertation and primary health mentor, Carolyn Graff, MD, RCP Direct, Juanita Williams, and all the staff of Shelby County Relative Caregiver Program at UT Boling Center for the successful completion of her project.

Indeed, grandparents are assets to our nation’s economy. The University of Tennessee Health Science Center (Boling Center) is a pioneer in research and programs to improve the lives of grandparents in Shelby County.

Textbook Information

In compliance with state law, UTHSC makes textbook information available to students via the Bookstore web site at both of these web addresses: www.uthsc.bncollege.com or www.utmem.edu/bookstore. To access information about adopted textbooks, enter the appropriate information about the course under the heading “Buy Your Textbooks On-Line Today!” On the page that follows, click on the “View Textbook List” link. Information such as textbook name, author, ISBN, and pricing can be found.

Course instructors can also verify their textbook adoptions from this site. This site will be updated as additional textbook adoption orders are received by the Bookstore.

Further information about textbooks can be obtained by calling Clara Taliaferro, textbook supervisor, at (901) 448-6166.
On May 17, students from the College of Nursing participated in a Spanish health screening at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Humboldt, Tenn. The health screening was a required component for the Tennessee Department of Health Project Diabetes Grant and Hispanic Language and Cultural Acquisition Course NSG 525.

“The students were absolutely wonderful and participants enjoyed themselves,” said Zoila Vichot Sanchez, PhD, RN, and assistant professor UTHSC College of Nursing.

On August 15, the College of Medicine held its white coat ceremony at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church. The keynote speaker was Frederick P. Rivara, MD, MPH, chief of the Division of General Pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine at the University of Washington. Presented to entering medical students, the white coat ceremony for the College of Medicine symbolizes the culmination of the orientation to medical school. It consists of a procession in white coats led by the presidents of the junior and senior medical classes.

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