College of Dentistry Keeps Athletes Smiling

The University of Memphis women’s basketball team will showcase more than a new head coach during the upcoming 2008-2009 season. The young women will also sport custom–made mouth guards constructed at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry.

On October 8, nine U of M student-athletes enthusiastically arrived on the fifth floor of the UT Health Science Center College of Dentistry. The young women will also sport custom–made mouth guards constructed at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry.

Preserve the athletes’ teeth. Baseball and basketball account for half of all sports-related mouth injuries. According to the International Academy for Sports Dentistry, more than $500 million is spent each year on replacing teeth that are knocked out during games.

UT Health Science Center and the University of Memphis are collaborating in an effort to reduce dental costs and help preserve the athletes’ teeth. Baseball and basketball account for half of all sports-related mouth injuries. According to the International Academy for Sports Dentistry, more than $500 million is spent each year on replacing teeth that are knocked out during games.

Left to right: Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, is honored by UT President John Petersen at the Legacy Society’s inaugural dinner, named in Dr. Wall’s honor.

Dr. Petersen noted that naming the society for Chancellor Wall was a natural decision.

"Pat sets a wonderful example for others, will, charitable trust, gift annuity, insurance policy, or retirement plan. "These types of gift commitments have an inherently special meaning because you are equating UT to a family member," he observed. "Your gifts will help us sustain the proud tradition of teaching, research, patient care and public service, all of which make a tremendous, positive difference in the lives of so many throughout Tennessee and across the region."

A New Direction for Audiology and Speech Pathology

In October, the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a plan that will allow the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology and its clinics to continue operations. The program will remain in Knoxville and be administered by the UT Health Science Center College of Allied Health Sciences in Memphis.

The shift will take effect by July 1, pending approval by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

"This is a good solution for everyone," says interim chancellor of University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Jan Simek. "It’s more appropriate for the audiology and speech pathology program and its clinical programs to be a part of the College of Allied Health Sciences at UTHSC. This plan offers an increased potential for graduate work and increased opportunities to provide much-needed services to communities around the state."

Currently enrolled undergraduates and those who declare their majors in audiology and speech pathology by August 2010 will be able to complete their degrees.

After 2010, all courses will continue to be offered through UT Knoxville’s College of Education, Health and Human Services, and students will be able to earn a degree in special education with an emphasis on communication sciences and disorders. Students also can take these courses as prerequisites to graduate work or as components of other degrees.

See Audiology, pg. 4
MCS Leader Visits Memphis Campus

On October 31, Kriner Cash, EdD, superintendent of Memphis City Schools (MCS), and Irving Hamer, EdD, deputy superintendent of academic operations, technology and innovation at MCS, visited the UTHSC Memphis campus for the first time. The two veteran educators, who took on their current positions in July, met with representatives from all six UTHSC colleges and senior members of the administration. They followed the meeting with a campus tour.

“I first heard Dr. Cash speak about his vision for the Memphis City Schools at one of the monthly meetings attended by the heads of all the educational institutions in the city,” said UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. “I was really struck by Dr. Cash’s message and I think we can help each other.”

“We are looking for partners,” Dr. Cash stated, “I think that is an appropriate theme for our meeting today.” The city school’s leader outlined six main strategic goals for his team: 1. areas of academic achievement, which he referred to as “raising the ceiling and bringing up the floor”; 2. accountability, updating archaic systems; 3. parent and community engagement; 4. healthy youth development; 5. safety and discipline, and 6. diversity, including increasing the number of teachers with second language certification.

“We are mainly here to ask for your assistance with the student wellness piece of the equation,” he added. “With about 105,000 children in the MCS system, there may be numerous opportunities for UTHSC to serve students.

“Our children need more exposure to health care career options and the biosciences,” observed Dr. Hamer. “We need to create more of a pipeline for our students as a path into the health sciences.”

Left to right: Dr. Irving Hamer, Chancellor Pat Wall, Dr. Kriner Cash and Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD.

Chancellor’s Roundtable

On October 27, George E. Cates, long-time Memphis businessman and community leader, called to action nearly 100 members of the Chancellor’s Roundtable during its final 2008 meeting at the Racquet Club. Cates noted that the problems the Health Science Center has faced are in the past, stating, “Pat Wall is providing outstanding leadership and intense commitment as chancellor. He brings energetic and able leadership to the Health Science Center at a critical time.”

Cates outlined the many challenges that UTHSC currently faces, explaining that “strategies must be developed to resolve the issues of worn out facilities...to improve the funding hole we face every year with The MED...and to increase private giving to make up for shrinking state funds.” He concluded, “We need to be partnering more, nurturing ties with local organizations and making existing relationships more effective because the Health Science Center is critical to the city, region and state.”

UTHSC Donates More Than a Ton of Food and Supplies

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center launched a campus-wide food drive to benefit the Mid-South Food Bank. Canned food and supplies were collected from Tuesday, November 11 to Friday, November 21, just in time for Thanksgiving.

Drop-off boxes were strategically located throughout the campus. According to the Mid-South Food Bank, UTHSC collected 2,631 pounds of food. That equates to more than 1,865 meals.

“Everyone who helped with the Campus Food Drive made it a great success,” said Mairie Shelton, LCSW, interim director of Community Affairs, who organized the food drive on the sprawling campus.

Each week 12,400 individuals rely on food supplied by the Mid-South Food Bank, which is located a few blocks away on South Dudley Street.

The Mid-South Food Bank distributes about one million pounds of food a month. Almost 10 percent of that food comes from local food drives.

Left to right: Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, Ken Bradshaw, Chancellor Pat Wall, MD, Malrie Shelton, Felicia Shaw, Stacy Luckett, Tiffany Trice, Elise Moore, Amber Kittrell, Cynthia Tooley, Barbara Patton, Eloise Tate and Rebecca Ennis were among those who organized food to be delivered to The Memphis Food Bank.

See Food Drive, pg. 4
UTHSC Raises More Than $12,000 for Heart Walk

Since 2003, UTHSC has participated in the American Heart Association’s Memphis Heart Walk. This year was no exception. On October 11, “The 2008 Start!” raised more than $493,000 with help from UTHSC faculty, staff and students recruiting 18 teams collectively consisting of 237 members.

The efforts from UTHSC were evident that Saturday morning as a sea of orange T-shirts paved the way for the 5k walk at Shelby Farms. The Heart Walk was preceded by a 15-minute warm up exercise and the recognition of team leaders including “top walker” Frances O’Neal in the Office of Alumni Affairs, who was recognized for raising the most money in one day at UTHSC. Top Walkers are the American Heart Association’s most valuable fundraisers, for they raise more than $1,000 for the event. Frances received a letter of recognition from Heart Walk chair, Gary Shorb, CEO of Methodist Lebonheur Healthcare, VIP parking at the event, a T-shirt, medal, post-walk breakfast and a grand prize from Sam’s Town Casino. She has been recognized as a top walker since UTHSC began participating in 2003.

UTHSC joined other organizations such as Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare, Baptist Memorial Healthcare, Accredo Health, Inc., Cigna, McKesson, Wal-Mart and IDFA in co-sponsoring the event.

“I am extremely proud of the support from our entire team and I was enthused to see the large amount of student participation this year,” said Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD.

The American Heart Association, founded in 1924, is the nation’s oldest and largest voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing disability and death from diseases of the heart and stroke. These diseases and all other cardiovascular diseases claim over 700,000 lives a year. In 2006, the association invested more than $543 million in research, professional and public education, advocacy and community service programs to help all Americans live longer, healthier lives.

UTHSC has been a huge supporter of the American Heart Association and the Memphis Heart Walk. Through campus research, efforts have been made to raise awareness to help fight the top killer of Memphians. UTHSC will offer forthcoming studies related to heart disease and hypertension.

Penalty Increases for Illegal Handicapped Parking

If you are thinking about using a handicapped parking spot – even for a minute – you may want to drive around the block one more time; you could save yourself $200.

The penalty for parking illegally in a handicapped spot changed from $150 to $200 with no possibility of an appeal. These changes were approved by the Tennessee Legislature and became effective July 1.

The UTHSC Campus Police Department and Parking Services want to remind faculty, staff and students that this law also applies on campus and includes university vehicles.

The new law:
- Increases the fine for parking illegally in the handicapped zone from $150 to $200.
- Eliminates any waiver or appeal of a citation.
- Stipulates that the offender also could be subject to five hours of community service.

Currently, the UT Health Science Center has 175 handicapped designated spaces. Officers write citations to those who illegally park in these spaces, and violators often request a waiver. However, under this new law, an avenue for appeal is no longer possible.

UTHSC handicapped parking permits are issued by Parking Services for individuals with disabilities to have easier access.

Any person with a disability who needs parking or on-campus assistance can contact Parking Services at 448-4446.

UTHSC 2008 Memphis Heart Walk Teams

1st thru 4th Floor Hyman Allied Health Sciences
Black Students Association
Brenda Coleman’s Team
Charlett Golden’s Team
College of Medicine
College of Nursing
College of Pharmacy Development & Alumni Affairs
Frances O’Neal’s Team
Mamie Gray’s Team
Mia Williams’ Team
Ruby McNee’s Team
S1-P2 Agonists
SASS
Student Life and Campus Rec
UTHSC College of Dentistry
UTHSC Department of Social Work
UTHSC Campus Police and Parking Services

Campus Clinic Provides Dental Care

The University of Tennessee College of Dentistry operates a Dental Clinic every weekday (Monday through Friday) at its Dunn Dental Building located at 875 Union Avenue.

The clinic is open for regular services by appointment from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m. The UT Dental Clinic has more than 39,000 patient visits each year to support oral health care in the Memphis community.

The UT College of Dentistry clinic provides comprehensive oral health care services to patients of all ages, while charging fees that are typically 40 to 50 percent less than a dentist in private practice.

Dental Hygiene students from the UT College of Allied Health Sciences also work in the Dental Clinic, providing teeth cleaning and other dental hygiene services at a reduced cost.

In addition, the UT Dental Clinic accepts walk-in patients who are in need of emergency dental services on a first-come, first served basis.

Services are not free, but the fees are kept at a significantly lower level than those of private dental practices. Insurance is not accepted at the clinic, thus services must be paid for in cash, check or major credit cards. Patients can also apply for a line of credit through Enhance Financial.

With more than 7,000 graduates, the UT College of Dentistry has educated more than 75 percent of the dentists now practicing in the state of Tennessee.

For more information or to make an appointment, please call the College of Dentistry at (901) 448-6200.
Audiology cont. from page 1
majors.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, said the program will be a great asset for UTHSC. “The addition of the audiology and speech pathology program to the College of Allied Health Sciences at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center serves to facilitate our statewide presence in the delivery of clinical care, community service, research and education,” he said.

Ilsa Schwarz, head of the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology, said she’s pleased with the plan. “As part of the Health Science Center, we will be aligned with other academic departments that also have clinical training requirements. There will be an immediate understanding of what we do and some of the issues that surround departments like ours,” she said. “We anticipate opportunities for us to expand the clinical and academic faculty and increase the number of graduate students we serve.”

To help Memphis with front-end costs, UT will use proceeds received under the 1999 UT Hospital Lease and Transfer Agreement with University Health Systems Inc.

Petersen cont. from page 1
demonstrating true leadership and exemplary service to the Health Science Center. He truly embodies the spirit and ideals of the Legacy Society.”

Accepting this recognition and a commemorative gift from the university, Chancellor Wall stated, “In honoring me in this last ing and meaningful way, you also challenge me as well. When one receives recognition such as this – which seems undeserved – one has to earn it so I will have to work hard to do just that.

“I have been blessed to have served this place for half a century in one capacity or another. The wonderful students, residents, physician peers in the College of Medicine and now my superb colleagues here and across the state in our flagship health science institution have greatly enriched my professional life. To all of them, I am grateful.”

On Tuesday morning, Dr. Petersen segued into his annual campus visit in Memphis, meeting with groups of non-exempt employees, faculty, staff, local legislators and students. During the day-long series of meetings, he covered a wide range of topics including state budget cuts, the biofuels initiative with DuPont Danisco, new Human Resources initiatives under consideration (such as the compressed work week) and the importance of the Health Science Center to the UT System.

“This institution is too valuable for us to let wither,” President Petersen said. “We need the Health Science Center, and we need to build it back up for this state to accomplish what it needs to do. We know the financial news coming from the state is not encouraging, but we’re going to do everything that we can to keep the Health Science Center moving forward.”

Food Drive cont. from page 2
All donations gathered at UTHSC were delivered to the Mid-South Food Bank on Tuesday, November 25. These items were distributed to more than 320 charitable feeding agencies in 31 counties in Tennessee, North Mississippi and East Arkansas.

“Community donations of wholesome food and other grocery items are critical to our mission,” stated Susan Sanford, president and CEO of Mid-South Food Bank. “The generous efforts of the UT Health Science Center team members equated to 1,865 meals that benefited our neighbors in need,” she added.

For more information on how you can donate more food to the Mid-South Food Bank on behalf of UTHSC, please contact Malrie Shelton at (901) 448-2741.

Dentistry continued from page 1
of the Dunn Dental Building to have impressions made of their upper teeth. Mark R. Patterson, DDS, PhD, interim dean of the College of Dentistry, and Russell Wicks, DDS, MS, associate professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry, were both on hand to extend a warm welcome to the players.

A UT dental student also greeted each of M student-athlete, ushering them into the Graduate Prosthodontics Clinic. In the clinic, dental impressions were made by a host of prosthodontic residents, dental students and clinic staff members. The impression process takes about 10 minutes once a patient reaches the chair. Then there is a waiting period of one week for completion of the mouth guard.

The number of sports-related mouth injuries managed by the College of Dentistry is between 10 and 15 per year. Predoctoral dental students and postdoctoral dental residents in all specialty areas are involved in treating such cases.

“We are very fortunate to have the ability to utilize the services of the UT Health Science Center to protect our University of Memphis women’s basketball student-athletes,” said head coach Melissa McCarrin. “As we go out and compete, we can rest assured that our players’ risk for dental-related injuries has been decreased through our use of custom-made mouth guards.”

“Mouth guards are extremely effective in preventing sports-related oral injuries,” noted David Cagna, DMD, MS, professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry and director for the Graduate Prosthodontics Program. “The obvious ‘best solution’ is to institute effective preventive measures,” he observed. “History tells us that custom-made mouth guards work best.”

Dr. Cagna explained that many sports injuries result in tissue damage, which often leads to long-term dental management problems.

Dr. Cagna and Wicks provided experienced supervision as UT prosthodontic residents and dental students worked with each of the basketball players.

Dentists estimate that between 13 and 39 percent of dental injuries occur while playing sports. According to a 1997 study published in the Journal of Pediatric Dentistry, three times as many mouth injuries occur on the basketball court as on the football field. One reason is the fact that the use of mouth guards in all levels of football was fully mandated in 1974. Even though mouth and face injuries account for a significant percentage of basketball injuries, mouth guards are not yet mandatory.

To decrease the possibility of a dental injury that could have life-long effects, Dr. Cagna recommends custom-made mouth guards for all levels of basketball – intramural, college, professional and the corner pickup game.
On October 26, five individuals from the College of Nursing received awards and recognition at the 2008 Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) Awards Luncheon in Nashville, Tenn. The annual TNA Awards Luncheon offers an opportunity to honor nurses and other individuals by acknowledging their exceptional dedication, commitment and professionalism to the profession of nursing.

E. Dianne Greenhill, EdD, RN, professor emeritus, received the TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes a retired TNA member who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and TNA, continued participation in TNA and nursing, and achieved state and/or national recognition by the profession.

Greenhill has spent her professional career educating and counseling nurses for four decades. An author for 30 years, she has dedicated her life to advancing the education and preserving the history and legacy of nurses in Tennessee.

Donna Herrin, MSH, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence, which recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas of nursing practice. Nominees may be selected from the areas of nursing education, direct care, advanced practice and nursing administration.

Herrin is a professional nursing role model in every sense of the word. She has always been in the forefront when promoting excellence for the direct care provider, the nurse manager, and nursing leaders.

She currently is senior vice president and chief nurse executive for Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare in Memphis and adjunct professor at UTHSC College of Nursing.

Carol Thompson, PhD, RN, ACNP, FNP, FCCM, FAANP, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education, which is the second area that recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas.

Thompson consistently and conscientiously maintains excellence in her own practice and promotes excellence in the practice of students who study under her. Thompson serves as professor and options coordinator of the Acute and Critical Care Advanced Practice Option at UTHSC.

Dr. Greenhill along with Louise Browning, former executive director of the Tennessee Nurses Association, received the 2008 TNA Friend of Nursing Award, which recognizes an individual or group that has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and the Tennessee Nurses Association. Contributions may be professional, monetary or literary.

Dr. Greenhill and Louise Browning are co-authors of the book *A 100 Year History of the Tennessee Nurses Association*.

Jane Owen, MSN, RN, BC, APN, FNP, is the recipient of the 2008 John W. Runyan Community Nursing Award. Owen is a member of the UTHSC College of Nursing Cashdollar Committee.

The award is named in honor of Dr. John W. Runyan, Jr., University Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s Department of Preventative Medicine. The award, established in 1979, is designed to recognize a currently practicing nurse who has made significant contributions to the development and promotion of community health nursing.

During the convention, Tommie Norris, DNS, RN, Director of BSN (Entry into Practice) Program at UTHSC was elected vice president of TNA.

The mission of the Tennessee Nurses Association shall be to promote and protect the registered nurse and to advance the practice of nursing in order to assure a healthier Tennessee.

Over the past year, The College of Nursing has been involved in self evaluation for four major accreditation visits: American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) accreditation of the Continuing Education Unit, reaccreditation of the master’s program, initial accreditation of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and reaccreditation of the Nurse Anesthesia Program by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs (COA).

The self-study document for the Continuing Education Unit in the College of Nursing was submitted to the ANCC in July 2008. Site appraisers Amy Bernard, director of Nursing Education and Nurse Planner at Western Schools, West Bridgewater, MA and Barbara Petrie, former director of the Nursing Education Program New York State Nurses Association, were on campus November 12 and 13 to evaluate the College of Nursing’s Continuing Education Unit. They will submit a report of their findings to the ANCC Review Commission and the college will be notified of continuing accreditation status three months from the date of their submission.
The Record

**Luis Campos, MD, has joined the surgical staff of Methodist University Hospital (MUH) Transplant Institute. Dr. Campos will also be a member of UT Medical Group, Inc., and will serve as an associate professor in the UTHSC Department of Surgery.**

Dr. Campos is from the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, where he was a member of the Transplant Program’s surgical staff and specialized in abdominal transplants. While at the University of Maryland, he also served as an assistant professor of surgery.

“We’re excited to have Dr. Campos join our surgical team,” said James Eason, MD, program director of Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute. “We feel very privileged to have attracted someone of his caliber. His comprehensive training, talent and experience make him an invaluable addition to the Transplant Institute.”

Dr. Campos received his medical degree from LaSalle University in Mexico City. His postgraduate training includes work as an intern and resident in general surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. While there he also completed fellowships in multiple organ transplant and surgical research.

“Dr. Campos’ presence on our surgical staff will benefit our patients and our transplant program,” said Dr. Eason. “Our Transplant Institute has always been a leader in its field, and with the addition of Dr. Campos, I am confident we will continue to work toward our goal of being recognized as one of the top 10 transplant programs in the country.”

**Recommendation for UT Knoxville Chancellor**

On October 24, UT President John Petersen, PhD, recommended Jimmy Cheek, PhD, senior vice president for Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Florida, to serve as the next Chancellor for the Knoxville campus. Dr. Cheek is expected to begin operating in his new role on February 1.

Appointed to the vice president post at Florida in 2005, his current role involves managing the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, which includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, elements of the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, 13 Research and Education Centers throughout Florida and the Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

He was dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for five years and assistant dean for seven years.

Dr. Cheek earned a doctorate in interdisciplinary education from Texas A&M University. A native of Texas, he and his wife, Ileen, have two adult children and one granddaughter.

“I am grateful to search committee members for their diligent work,” said President Petersen. “I am also appreciative of Dr. Jan Simek, who has been serving as interim chancellor since January 2008. He will continue to lead the Knoxville campus until the transition in February,” he added.

**Radiation Safety Office Launches New X-ray Safety Initiative**

The UTHSC Radiation Safety Office is launching a revised and updated X-ray safety program. The program covers all aspects relating to the safe use of X-ray producing equipment at UTHSC.

All possessors of X-ray equipment must now apply to the Radiation Safety Committee to become an X-ray Authorized User. In addition, all X-ray machines and facilities will be internally registered with the Radiation Safety Office. As part of this registration process, each facility will undergo a comprehensive safety evaluation.

Also, a new training class, which covers X-ray radiation safety, is now available by request. This new class will better address the needs of UTHSC employees who work with X-ray equipment.

Radiation Safety is contacting staff and faculty who possess X-ray machines. These individuals will receive an application package that contains the required registration paperwork.

Please note that existing policy states that any purchases, donations, disposals, moves or transfers of X-ray machines must be approved by the radiation safety officer in order to ensure both safety and compliance with state regulations.

If you have any questions or concerns about radiation safety at UTHSC, you should contact radiation safety officer Bryan Lemieux at blemieux@utmem.edu or call the Radiation Safety Office at 448-6114.

**UTHSC PhDA Hosted Research Day**

The UTHSC Postdoctoral Association (PhDA) hosted its first annual UT Postdoc Research Day on September 26, 2008 in the Cancer Research Building. The mission of this event was to highlight postdoctoral talent on campus, enhance opportunities for collaborations among laboratories and promote excellence in health science research.

The research day began with a poster showcase and judging. In order for graduate students to participate in the poster contest, students submitted an author abstract signifying their intent to display a poster. The poster contest consisted of research in various categories such as pre-diabetes, breast cancer, septic shock, chronic inflammatory diseases and potential antiviral agents. Following the contest luncheon was keynote speaker Steve Bares, PhD, CEO of Memphis Bioworks.

The UT PhDA is also sponsoring two to three postdoctoral travel awards in 2009. These competitive awards are based on scientific merit, financial need and career benefit. The UTHSC Postdoctoral Association was founded in 2006 and is comprised of individuals who are motivated by goals consistent with the mission statement.

The PhDA is dedicated to the goal of facilitating communications between the postdoctoral community, faculty mentors and the administration of UTHSC to enhance postdoctoral training experience. In addition, the association provides postdoctoral trainees with the skills to enhance the development of their careers.
Methodist University Hospital (MUH) in partnership with the UTHSC College of Nursing opened a Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) on Tuesday, January 6. The DEU is a new model of clinical nursing education designed through the collaboration of nurses, faculty and management. It establishes an innovative teaching/learning environment while providing quality care to patients. It is believed to be one of the first in the Southeastern United States.

Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, dean of UTHSC College of Nursing, was prompted to start this new training model after visiting a DEU at the University of Portland.

After returning from Portland she immediately started discussions with MUH to develop a program here in Memphis. There will be six clinical teachers and 12 students at the DEU. This ratio will provide the personalized instruction needed to create an optimal learning environment for clinical training.

The DEU model has a “village” concept, which emphasizes the relationship between the academic partners (UTHSC) and practice partners (MUH). Students, nursing staff and faculty will work together to achieve the goals of the program.

A DEU provides several advantages for a nursing student including mentorship, moral support and more personalized instruction. Better recruitment, retention, improved morale and professional development have been identified as advantages for clinical staff.

For more information about the DEU, contact Dr. Leslie McKeon, UTHSC College of Nursing assistant professor of acute and chronic care at (901) 448-6151 or Dolores Marshall, Methodist University Hospital chief nursing officer at (901) 516-8275.

Endocrinology Announces Grand Rounds Schedule

The UTHSC Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism conducts Endocrine Grand Rounds, a series of lectures that covers a broad range of basic and clinical topics, every Thursday morning. The lectures are held at 10 a.m. in the third floor conference room at 920 Madison.

UT faculty or outside guests present a lecture on an issue related to endocrinology, often including discussions of the lecturers own research. Grand rounds are an integral part of the division’s medical education of faculty, fellows, residents and students. These lectures are open to the public, and all who are interested are invited to call the division at 448-2608 to be added to its mailing list.

Recent Faculty and staff presenting at grand rounds have included: Beverly J. Williams-Cleaves, MD, associate professor of medicine and section chief, Regional Medical Center; Amna Khan, MD, second year endocrine fellow; Kimberly Lamar, PhD, assistant professor, preventive medicine; Robert Sayre, PhD, associate professor, dermatology; Dr. Solomon Solomon, MD, professor of medicine and pharmacology, section chief, endocrinology and metabolism, VAMC; Tai June Yoo, MD, PhD, professor, medicine, microbiology and immunology; Ebenzer Nyenwo, MD, assistant professor of medicine; Amy Brewer, MS, RD, LDN, nutritionist for the Look AHEAD NIH-funded program; Nosratollah Nezakatgoo, MD, assistant professor, surgery.

The department also conducts the Endocrinology Journal Club, which meets every Thursday at 4 pm in suite 909 at 920 Madison, to evaluate recent articles in basic or applied science and to promote the application of evidence-based medicine practices.

UT’s Medical Library Improves Statewide Accessing

In November, doctors in rural Tennessee gained access to the same statewide health information as urban physicians. A team of medical library experts, led by professionals at Preston Medical Library and Learning Resource Center at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville, Tenn., received two grants from the U.S. Library of Medicine National Network to carry out statewide educational initiatives. Through these initiatives, the group will train public librarians and physicians in Tennessee to better access, evaluate and utilize health information from the Internet.

“The Internet can be a very reliable source of health information and often is the first to have the most current information,” said Sandy Oelschlegel, MLIS, Preston Library director. “Most people know this and rely on it for much of their information. The problem is that unreliable information resides there too, and physicians in rural parts of the state often have difficulty accessing medical resources electronically.”

The team will teach public librarians how to help their patrons find understandable, trustworthy health information on the Internet. Librarians will also learn how to develop health care information collections in their facilities.

The initiatives will also fund training to help access full-text health care articles for physicians in Tennessee who are not affiliated with universities or hospitals that provide library services. The team of medical librarians are partnering with the Tennessee Medical Association and six participating libraries across the state to provide these resources for physicians.

Oelschlegel and the University of Tennessee are no strangers to helping physicians and consumers find reliable health information. In addition to providing onsite medical information, Preston Medical Library at the UT Graduate School of Medicine has provided the Consumer and Patient Health Information Service for 20 years. The program has helped thousands of patients and consumers receive health information free of charge in order to conduct more productive conversations with their physicians. Oelschlegel leads the team of medical library professionals who achieved the funding to expand outreach efforts across the state.

National Experts at 2009 Hematology Conference

The UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville, Tenn. will hold its Fifth Annual Hematology Conference: An Update on Selected ASH Topics, on January 24 at the UT Conference Center.

This conference will highlight selected topics from the American Society of Hematology (ASH) International Conference, which took place in December in San Francisco, Calif. This year, featured speakers will include Thomas Habermann, MD, Mayo Clinic; Jean-Pierre Issa, MD, Anderson Cancer Center; Craig Kessler, MD, Georgetown University; Sagar Lonial, MD, Emory University Hospital; and David Rizzieri, MD, Duke University Medical Center. These nationally known hematology experts will develop unique presentations combining their areas of expertise with Information from the December ASH Conference.

Registration for this conference is available at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Hematology2009. For more information, call 865-305-9190. This CME event is sponsored by the UT Graduate School of Medicine.
UT Chattanooga COM Collaborates for Child Health Study

On October 3, a consortium headed by Emory University was awarded $28.5 million as part of a second wave of federal funding for the landmark National Children’s Study (NCS). Emory will partner with the Morehouse School of Medicine, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga College of Medicine (UTCOMC) and Battelle Memorial Institute to initiate this phase of research.

Emory, UTCOMC and its partner locations collectively represent one of only 36 U.S. study centers selected to take part in the NCS, a multi-year study examining the impact of environmental and genetic factors on the health of children in the U.S.

The largest child health study in the United States, the National Children’s Study will follow a representative national sample of 100,000 children from before birth to age 21, seeking information to prevent and treat some of the nation’s most pressing health problems, including autism, birth defects, diabetes, heart disease and obesity.

Emory, UTCOMC and its partner research teams will collect genetic, biological, and environmental samples from study volunteers in rural Georgia and Tennessee and will compile statistical information for analyses.

“I am very excited about the opportunities the National Children’s Study will bring to Bradley County,” says Marvin Hall, MD, UTCOMC clinical assistant professor of pediatrics.

The study is conducted by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences - both of the National Institutes of Health - the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

UT Campaign for Tennessee Reaches $767 Million

The University of Tennessee is experiencing strong momentum and steady growth in its statewide fundraising results. This good news is a direct result of the Campaign for Tennessee, the university’s $1 billion campaign.

More than $63 million has been received since the official public campaign launched in April 2008, bringing the total to $767,531,811, or 77 percent of the goal. The most ambitious effort in the university’s history, the campaign provides resources to enhance programs of excellence at all campuses and institutes.

UT President John Petersen, PhD, said private giving allows for programs to develop and grow, even when faced with statewide budget cuts that affect UT and all state colleges and universities.

“Private giving allows us to enhance quality programs and take advantage of strategic opportunities that will serve the state by strengthening the economy, fueling job growth and enhancing the state’s workforce,” said Dr. Petersen. “We are pleased with the level of enthusiasm of our alumni and friends who have participated in the campaign and grateful for their willingness to invest in what we provide for our state.”

The campaign seeks support for initiatives that impact student access and success, research, economic development, outreach and goals for globalization. Funds are raised through outright gifts and pledges, planned gifts and private grants for research.

Campaign priorities include endowed scholarships and professorships, chairs of excellence, new and enhanced facilities and other innovative faculty and student programs.

Officials noted that private support has long-term impact on specific programs – rather than helping to meet the overall and annual needs for operating money for the university. More than 98 percent of all gifts are restricted for a specific program as set forth by the donor.

“Increasing private support, however, clearly demonstrates how much UT is valued by our citizens. That kind of success will encourage increased investment from all sources going forward,” Dr. Petersen added.

Since the campaign began, more than $140 million in private funds has gone to support undergraduate and graduate scholarships and fellowships.

Several gifts of more than $1 million have been received recently benefiting scholarships or other programs including contributions from Ralph and Barbara Hamilton, who made a $1 million gift to the Department of Ophthalmology at the Health Science Center in Memphis.

The Campaign for Tennessee places UT among the ranks of the nation’s largest public and private institutions that have sought this level of private support. The campaign launched in 2005 and will run through 2011.

New Guidelines for UT Career Development Fund

On November 1, several changes were made to the University of Tennessee Career Development Fund (CDF). The CDF, a financial assistance plan supported by annual gifts from employees, enables employees to attend professional development programs. The CDF committee reviews requests and approves funding based on the guidelines.

Changes to the guidelines include the eligibility of exempt university employees and location of conferences. Only non-exempt, regular, full or part-time employees may participate in the CDF, and the committee will only approve participation in conferences that take place in Tennessee.

Decreased donation rates necessitated the recent policy changes. Since donation rates are a big part of the continuation of the fund, employees are encouraged to contribute. Contributions to the Career Development Fund can be made online at http://www.tennessee.edu/giving or at http://givetout.tennessee.edu. You may also contact Brian Hardy, assistant vice president for annual giving, at (865) 974-5439 or by e-mail at brianhardy@tennessee.edu.

To read more information about the Career Development Fund, its guidelines and eligibility requirements, please visit the Web site at http://www.tennessee.edu/cdf.

EEF Encourages Suggestions from Employees

In 2008, the UT System launched UTALK to keep the lines of communications open between EEF (the Committee on Effectiveness & Efficiency for the Future) and faculty, staff and students.

The EEF’s purpose is to help identify ways the university can become more effective and efficient, predominantly through the savings ideas and suggestions of UT faculty, employees and students.

UTALK is the interactive feature launched as part of the system Web site redesign and is the method through which people submit their comments, concerns and suggestions about the University.

UTALK is available on the EEF homepage or by visiting the site directly at http://bot.tennessee.edu/committees/eef/.
Pharmacology Experts Receive K12 Scholars Grant

The Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at UTHSC is pleased to announce recipients of its first K12 Scholars grant program. The CTSI, a new enterprise that transforms clinical and basic investigations into improved health care for communities, offers K12 Scholars grants to support young faculty researchers performing clinical and translational studies at UTHSC.

The grants involve a competitive process to identify top scholars with outstanding clinical research proposals that can be converted into disease treatments and advancements in public health. The CTSI’s 10-member Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee reviewed seven applications.

Two researchers emerged as K12 Scholars grant recipients: Collin A. Hovinga, PharmD, and Terreia S. Jones, PharmD. Each investigator holds the position of assistant professor in the UT College of Pharmacy Department of Clinical Pharmacy.

Dr. Hovinga’s study will focus on neonatal hypoxia-induced seizures and the identification of genes related to seizure vulnerability and resistance. The genetic data will help identify new, age-appropriate targets at which novel drugs can be aimed. In addition, this research has the potential to identify genes that can predict outcomes of neonatal seizures. An appropriate mouse model will be used for the research, which has the potential to guide clinicians to more aggressive treatments for certain neonatal populations. Throughout the K12 Scholar program, Dr. Hovinga will consult with a mentor team of investigators from UT Health Science Center, as well as with other research institutions and the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Jones’ research will examine how genetic make-up and environment can predict risks for secondary brain tumors in individuals taking anticancer therapy for their primary cancer. In many cases, anticancer therapies improve cancer survival rates, but some individuals are genetically at risk for treatment-induced secondary cancers.

TPMT (thiopurine methyltransferase) is a gene that deactivates thiopurine drugs—these drugs are commonly used to treat leukemia and have been associated with risks for secondary brain tumors after intake of anticancer drugs. This study will use mice with different TPMT genotypes to examine the degree to which TPMT causes brain tissue toxicity and brain tumor development after anticancer drug usage. Results will explain why secondary brain tumors can develop after these drugs are taken. This understanding could prevent devastating treatment-associated outcomes and provide insight into innovative therapeutic targets for brain tumor treatment.

“We congratulate Drs. Hovinga and Jones for their outstanding work and success in being chosen as the inaugural recipients of the prestigious K12 Scholar awards,” said Edward Chaum, MD, PhD, Plough Foundation Professor of Retinal Diseases, and director of the K12 Scholars program for the CTSI. “They represent the next generation of clinical scientists, leading the transformation of the clinical research enterprise on campus. They are the first of what we envision to be a long line of distinguished K12 Scholars.”

UTHSC Researchers Present at TTDC

Several University of Tennessee researchers from Knoxville, the UT Health Science Center (UTHSC) and the UT Space Institute (UTSI) presented their technologies at the inaugural Tennessee Innovation Conference in Nashville on November 21. Sponsored by the Tennessee Technology Development Corporation (TTDC), the conference highlighted researchers from across the state whose efforts have the potential to help transform the state’s economy through potential commercialization efforts.

Using guidelines from TTDC, the University of Tennessee Research Foundation selected the researchers based on their current research efforts in high impact areas such as clean energy, medical technologies and pharmaceuticals. The event was designed to facilitate early stage dialogue between scientists and 25 venture capitalists from across the country. The objective was to help researchers receive useful data — strategy input and feedback, referrals to potential partners or investors, ideas on how to estimate the size of the potential market opportunity, awareness of potential competitors — so that they can make better decisions during their technology development that may positively affect commercial success.

Founder, president and CEO Sam Lynch shared his story of developing a high-growth, venture-backed biotechnology business in Tennessee with technology licensed from Harvard University.

There were several positive outcomes. Researchers said they learned a lot about the commercialization process and how their efforts can influence it. One venture capitalist has offered help to start a new business based on one of the technologies, and another was so impressed by the capabilities at UTHSC that he is planning a visit to the campus in January.

The participating researchers from UTHSC were:

- Monica Jablonski (treatment for age-related macular degeneration)
- Duane Miller (treatment for prostate and skin cancer)
- Jim Johnson (sustained release injectable analgesics)
- Denis DiAngelo (spine implant testing system)
- George Wood (targeted drug delivery system for cancer)

The participating researcher from UTSI was:

- Ying Ling Chen (eye evaluation system for children).
UTHSC Shows Holiday Spirit

On December 10, music, food, fun and games filled the atmosphere at the Campus Holiday Party in the SAC Dining Hall. With the economy in a decline, UTHSC used this year’s party as an opportunity to extend holiday cheer to employees and less-fortunate families.

Faculty, staff and students donated items to the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association’s (MIFA) Holiday Hope Chest. MIFA serves approximately 60,000 people in our community. MIFA’s Holiday Hope Chest provides gifts for over 400 children in their Housing Opportunities, Emergency Services, and Teen Job Services programs. MIFA also provides gift bags for Senior Meals clients on Christmas Day each year. “Each year MIFA tries to give the children and seniors that we serve special holiday gifts,” said Margaret Craddock, executive director for MIFA. This would not be possible without our generous volunteers from the UT Health Science Center. Items collected at UTHSC included t-shirts, socks, educational toys, books, music, gift certificates, watches, games sport equipment, blankets, poinsettias, stationery, postage stamps, winter caps, sweaters, t-shirts, socks, mittens or gloves, lotion, flashlights, playing cards and puzzles.

Faculty, staff and students serve themselves at the Campus Holiday Party.

Staff of UTHSC dine and mingle at Campus Holiday Party.

UTHSC Faculty Member Sparks Need for State Cancer Plan

The American Cancer Society has declared that at least half of all cancer-related deaths can be prevented via lifestyle changes and better use of screening tools. According to a 2008 Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report, Tennessee ranked sixth highest in the nation in cancer deaths based on data collected in 2004.

With this in mind, Stephen L. Foster, PharmD, professor and vice chair in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at UTHSC College of Pharmacy, explored this declaration by spearheading the 2008 Cervical Cancer Prevention Plan, a report for cervical cancer elimination prepared by the Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Subcommittee.

The subcommittee was formed by the Tennessee General Assembly in May 2006, to study the prevalence and burden of cervical cancer in Tennessee. Subcommittee members developed strategies for public awareness, prevention and detection. Their main goal was to publish the plan, which was presented to Gov. Phil Bredesen and the 2008 General Assembly in April.

Included on the subcommittee were Nadeem Zafar, MD, UTHSC assistant professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and Joseph Santoso, MD at the UT Cancer Institute, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, states that the report represents an important step towards realizing the goal to eliminate cervical cancer in Tennessee. Dr. Pfeffer is the Muirhead Professor of Pathology, vice-chair and director of the graduate program in Pathology. In addition, he is the director of Basic Research at the University of Tennessee Cancer Research Building.

“The proposal highlighted the importance of providing awareness and education to the lay public, as well as to health care providers concerning the importance of preventive screening and Human Papillomavirus vaccination as a strategy to eliminate this major killer of women,” he added.

The success of the Cervical Cancer Plan ignited a call to action by the Tennessee General Assembly. Under the direction of Gov. Bredesen, the Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition, a collaboration of professionals in health care, social work, higher education, government and non-profit agencies gathered data to target cancer prevention for Tennessee.

They developed the Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan (TCCCP), which incorporates broad goals that will be implemented by members of five regional coalitions and 12 statewide committees.

The plan outlines a goal summary for continuum of cancer care, including primary prevention, early detection, treatment and care, survivorship and palliative care.

The 2008 Cancer Cervical Cancer Plan and the Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan can be found online at http://health.state.tn.us/CCCP/TCCCC_Plan.pdf.
**DECEMBER 2008 – JANUARY 2009**

**Alum Sets Rupture, Medical Thriller, in Memphis**

Write what you know. That sage advice has been passed along to many an aspiring author. In Rupture, first-time novelist A. Scott Pearson, MD (College of Medicine ’91, UT Health Science Center), takes that advice and runs with it. Dr. Pearson has written a medical science fiction thriller inspired by his chosen profession and set in Memphis, the town where he learned his craft.

A native of the Forked Deer Community in West Tennessee, Dr. Pearson received his undergraduate degree, a BA in biology, from UT Knoxville, and later moved to Memphis for medical school. The rhythms and undercurrents of Memphis influenced Dr. Pearson and later inspired him to use the city as a backdrop for his thrilling novel. Set at the fictitious Gates Memorial Hospital, Rupture is a chilling tale about what happens when the advances of modern medicine collide with someone’s very dark past. Novels with Memphis settings, such as The Firm and The Client by renowned author John Grisham, have left a sense of intrigue on the city. Now the UTHSC community can be proud of one of its own. In Rupture, scenes come alive in the Memphis medical center. For Memphians and UTHSC graduates, the scenes impart familiarity, yet encourage readers to imagine more.

“I love writing about Memphis,” said Dr. Pearson. “The city has a certain edge to it, a sense of angst always simmering and ready to blow. I like to think of Memphis as a main character in my novels.”

Well-executed medical science fiction is praised for exhibiting the best characteristics of hard science fiction, mystery and drama. Such are the core components of Rupture, which introduces readers to protagonist Dr. Eli Branch. A rising star in the medical community, Dr. Branch is fulfilling his dream of becoming a successful surgeon and scientist. During some of his research he learns that today’s medicine has a very “dark side.”

While investigating the suspicious death of one of his patients, the fictional physician uncovers an elaborate web of lies spun by his late father, a longtime professor of anatomy at Mid-South Medical College in Memphis. As he searches for more information he hits upon even more questions, and eventually unearths more victims who died suddenly.

Dr. Pearson describes scenes from the operating room and explains medical terminology, such as aortic device failures and stem cell therapy, with clarity and ease. As a physician trained at a major medical research center, he realizes the importance of authenticity in execution.

With so many real-life medical discoveries and advances taking place on UTHSC campuses, Memphis seems to be a perfect setting for Dr. Pearson’s fictional novel, which has received several rave reviews.

J.T. Ellison, author of Judas Kiss, called Dr. Pearson a “John Grisham for the medical set.”

Michael Palmer, New York Times best-selling author of The First Patient, called Rupture “top notch medical suspense that will have you turning pages deep into the night. Rupture is the best medical thriller I’ve read in a long time.”

Oceanview Publishing in Ipswich, Massachusetts, will release the novel on February 1. “We are thrilled to announce the release of Rupture, a phenomenal novel of suspense by a dynamic new voice in the world of medical fiction,” commented Susan Greger, president.

Oceanview Publishing, www.oceanviewpub.com, is an independent publisher specializing in medical science fiction. For more information, please contact Maryglenn McCombs by phone at (615) 297-9875 or by e-mail at maryglenn@marglenn.com.

When he is not penning new works, Dr. Pearson specializes in General Surgical Oncology involving the endocrine and gastrointestinal systems as well as the breast. He is currently the chair of the Multidisciplinary Solid Tumor Board of The Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center in Nashville, Tenn.

**“Father of Aerobics” to Speak in Knoxville**

The “father of aerobics,” Kenneth Cooper, MD, MPH, has been named the 2009 University of Tennessee Boling Distinguished Visiting Professor and will present “Achieving a Lifetime of Good Health while Lowering Healthcare Costs” on January 29, 2009, Knoxville Convention Center.

The forum will include a panel of Knoxville area business leaders who will present, “Executive Insights on Personal and Corporate Wellness,” encouraging audience members’ interaction.

“I investing in employee wellness can be difficult for businesses during tenuous economic times,” said Debbie Bell, RN, MPH, University of Tennessee Medical Center. “Research shows, however, that healthier employees result in healthier bottom lines for their employers. In 1968, Dr. Kenneth Cooper launched a new movement in America, called aerobic exercise, by publishing the book, Aerobics, which offered the then-revolutionary notion that vigorous exercise could help people get and stay healthy. Two years later, he founded the Cooper Clinic in Dallas, Texas, a world-renowned facility devoted to the benefits of exercise and preventive medicine, where more than 60,000 patients have sought treatment.

Now, after years of research findings that confirm his message, Dr. Cooper continues his mission: to promote proper exercise, diet, and emotional balance for optimum health and longevity.

The forum is sponsored by University of Tennessee Medical Center, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, UT College of Business Administration, Knoxville and the Knoxville Chamber. It begins at 7:30 a.m., and the registration fee of $35 includes breakfast. Those interested in attending should contact the University of Tennessee Medical Center Office of Development at (865) 305-6611 or development@utmc.edu.
Larry Faulkner Appointed Interim Chair of OT

William R. Frey, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center announced the appointment of Larry Faulkner, PhD, as interim chair of the college’s Department of Occupational Therapy (OT). Dr. Faulkner will assume duties as interim chair in January. Ann Nolen, PsyD, the current OT chair, will step down at the end of this year.

Dr. Faulkner joined UTHSC in 2004 and recently completed a term as president of the UTHSC Allied Health Faculty Organization. Prior to UTHSC, he served four years as assistant professor at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in Hong Kong. His UTHSC research has been in the area of clinical instrument advances and the development of a seated Tai Chi program of frail older adults. He conducts his research in collaboration with Veronica Englie, PhD, RN, GNP, professor, UTHSC College of Nursing.

Along with his service to the OT Department, Dr. Faulkner will retain an additional role as associate professor for the UTHSC Department of Biomedical Engineering and Imaging. Dr. Faulkner holds a PhD in health and rehabilitation sciences from the University of Pittsburgh; an MSc in biomedical engineering from the University of Dundee, United Kingdom; and a BS degree in occupational therapy from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

In recent years, the UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences OT Department has made significant progress to increase its competitive advantage. It has grown from only offering a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy to now offering a master’s degree. Plus, it provides real-time distance education to OT students in Chattanooga while simultaneously educating OT students in Memphis. Through donations, the department created a new occupational therapy laboratory and renovated its pediatric occupational laboratory. The OT Department has been recognized nationally for its services to the Memphis community through the UTHSC Community Occupational Therapy Services program. Since 2001 the OT Department faculty has provided a significant amount of volunteer support to the community through the COTS program.

The OT Department recognizes that much of its recent progress is due to the leadership of its outgoing chair, Dr. Nolen, who served in this capacity for seven years. As interim chair, Dr. Faulkner will ensure that the department’s successes are continued and that collaborations within and outside the department are strengthened.

ISPOR Hosts Presidential Candidate Health Care Forum

As the 2008 presidential election heated up, and with just weeks before the big day, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center held its own political forums, with both Democratic and Republican representatives.

On October 3rd and 10th, students, faculty and staff gathered in the General Education Building on campus to discuss the presidential candidates’ health care plans.

A recent poll conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation found health care to be one of the most important issues that Americans would prefer to hear presidential candidates discuss.

The UTHSC campus aims to prepare competent and well-informed health care professionals and scholars. Therefore, the forum extended the opportunity for students and professionals to inquire about the most recent information regarding the candidates’ plans.

The purpose of the forum was to educate attendees about Senator John McCain and then Senator Barack Obama’s (now U.S. President-elect Obama’s) health care platforms.

The International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) UTHSC Student Chapter organized the forum. “We feel that it is of paramount importance to inform our local community of the progress on health care reform, and we know that others share our passion for having informed constituents,” said Arijit Ganguli, president of the ISPOR Student Chapter and UTHSC PhD student.

The guest speaker for the Republican Party was State Representative Brian Kelsey who came to campus on October 3. Pastor Keith Norman, head of the Shelby County Democratic Party, followed on October 10 and represented the Democratic candidate.

As evidenced in the recent debates, both Democratic and Republican presidential candidates yearned to demonstrate to the American people an understanding of health care issues and the impact those issues project onto the health, economy and security of our country.

The student chapter of ISPOR contributed to this very important part of our nation’s history by creating an environment where the concerns of health care professionals could be addressed on the UTHSC campus.

UTHSC Donates Clothing Items

The winter clothing drive at UTHSC was a huge success! The UT campus donated more than 2,000 pieces of clothing to the following Mid-south organizations: Dress for Success, Memphis Union Mission, Hope House, Homeless Veteran’s Program and the Salvation Army homeless program.

Because such a large volume of donations was received and many facilities had limited storage areas, UTHSC was able to donate to five organizations rather than the three intended programs. Faculty, staff and students donated items that will be distributed to individuals served by programs throughout the city of Memphis.

If you still wish to donate and are not sure which organizations need specific clothing items, please contact Jessica Credeur, student UT College of Social Work at jcredeur@utmem.edu. Some facilities only need certain items (i.e. Union Mission is in need of men’s items only right now).

It is evident that the UT campus opened its heart to meet some of the needs of others through the campus-wide food and clothing drives.
A new study seeks to shed light on pain after limb loss. The UTHSC is recruiting amputees, who are over 18 years of age and live in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, or Tennessee to share their experiences. "The purpose of this study is to learn more about pain and everyday activities in persons with limb loss," explained Cecile Evans, family nurse practitioner and PhD student at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Evans is a professional advisor with "Out on a Limb," a limb loss support group. She often speaks to limb loss support groups on phantom limb pain (pain that is felt as though it is coming from an arm or leg that has been amputated). She has worked with limb loss for more than 15 years and is conducting this study as part of her doctoral dissertation.

During the celebration, about 75 special guests gathered to watch the unveiling of a handcrafted bronze bust of the two HEI benefactors. The marvelously detailed likeness of the two special donors was commissioned by the World Cataract Foundation.

"Much of the success of Hamilton Eye Institute is because of the vision and support of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hamilton," stated UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. "Thanks to Dr. Jerre Freeman, a commemorative bust will now grace the atrium of the Hamilton Eye Institute as a reminder of the generosity of the Hamilton family."

"Hamilton Eye Institute is evidence of Ralph and Barbara’s crowning gift," Dr. Freeman said. "That’s why we chose to place this bust here."

Rick Mendius sculpted the bust using the lost wax technique in bronze. Mendius is a well-known medical illustrator from Collierville, Tenn. The Hamilton Eye Institute is the only university eye center providing advanced vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis. HEI’s universal outreach services through Telehealth and its advances in research and clinical care have become models for other ophthalmologists to follow worldwide.

UTHSC Seeks Amputees for Approved Research Study

A new study seeks to shed light on pain after limb loss. The UTHSC is recruiting amputees, who are over 18 years of age and live in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri or Tennessee to share their experiences. "The purpose of this study is to learn more about pain and everyday activities in persons with limb loss," explained Cecile Evans, family nurse practitioner and PhD student at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Evans is a professional advisor with "Out on a Limb," a limb loss support group. She often speaks to limb loss support groups on phantom limb pain (pain that is felt as though it is coming from an arm or leg that has been amputated). She has worked with limb loss for more than 15 years and is conducting this study as part of her doctoral dissertation.

One in 200 persons of all ages and one in 50 persons over 65 in the United States have lost a limb. Risk factors for limb loss due to medical causes include diabetes, smoking, obesity, and family poverty. African-Americans with diabetes have a higher rate of amputation than Whites with diabetes. The high rate of diabetes in the Mid-South, and a population that has a significant number of African-Americans suggests that the Mid-South has a combination of factors that contribute to putting the population at greater risk for limb loss than other parts of the country.

This study is focusing only on persons with limb loss that live in the Mid-South to help us learn more about pain and everyday activities specifically in Mid-Southerners with limb loss.

Pain after limb loss is experienced by almost all amputees. Learning more about pain and everyday activities may help us understand the impact of pain after limb loss. It is important for amputees with and without pain to participate in this study.

Pain after limb loss can make life hard. UTHSC seeks amputees to join in their efforts by becoming part of the solution. The study can be conducted by telephone or in person. One does not have to be in pain to participate. For more information or to make an impact on limb loss research, call (901) 647-8278.
PEOPLE

Brad Anderson, editorial and design specialist in the Communications and Marketing Department, and Tony Ferrara, vice chancellor of Finance and Operations, recently competed in the U.S. Open Racquetball Championships. The event, held in Memphis for the past 13 years, has raised more than $169,000 for St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

Ian M. Brooks, PhD, postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology, has been elected to serve a two-year term on the Board of Directors for the National Postdoctoral Association. Dr. Brooks is the immediate and the past president of the UTHSC Postdoctoral Association and is scheduled to begin an administrative internship this year.

Kevin L. Johnson was recently promoted to Academic Support Specialist III also referred to as the doiner in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology. He began working at UTHSC in 2003 as a custodian. In 2006, he was promoted to Senior Lab Aide in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology. His new duties include receiving, embalming, storing and cremating cadavers.

Diane Pace, PhD, FNP-BC, CCD, FAANP, was welcomed to the College of Nursing on December 1 as the assistant dean for faculty practice. In addition to her role as assistant dean, Dr. Pace will also assume responsibilities as director of the Center for Health Evaluation and Lifestyle Promotion (The HELP Center).

Dr. Pace is a nurse practitioner and nurse scientist with a 37-year history of contributions to the nursing profession. She holds bachelor’s degrees in health care administration and nursing, master’s degrees in education and nursing and additional nurse practitioner certifications. She earned a diploma in nursing in 1971 from the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Memphis, and completed the PhD in nursing from UTHSC in 1998.

Dr. Pace conveys a wealth of interdisciplinary practice experience to the CON. Her practice focuses on women’s health. She has also obtained significant external funding to conduct research related to hormone replacement therapy. She has lead implementation of e-health records and is recognized for her expertise in this area of practice.

Dr. Pace will be seeking opportunities to strengthen the CON Faculty Practice and establish new partnerships across campus and our community.

Kathy Pleasants, office manager and paralegal in the Office of General Counsel, was selected as a member of the Conference Committee that will plan the Association of Legal Administrators (ALA) 39th Annual Education Conference and Exposition to be held in May 2010 in Boston, Mass. She is president of the Memphis Chapter of the ALA, which was established 40 years ago and now has more than 10,000 members.

This is a tremendous honor for Kathy personally and will allow her to represent the Memphis Chapter at the national level. It is also a great honor for UTHSC, which receives both local and national exposure because of Kathy’s participation in ALA activities.

P. David Rogers, PharmD, PhD, FCCP, was recently appointed as the associate dean for translational research in the College of Pharmacy.

As associate dean, Dr. Rogers will act as liaison between the College of Pharmacy and the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). He will focus on the design of a graduate program in translational and clinical research and will evaluate both clinical and translational research initiatives. Dr. Rogers will also evaluate educational efforts within the College of Pharmacy.

In addition to acting as associate dean, Dr. Rogers will retain his current UTHSC responsibilities, all of which relate to translational research. He is professor and vice chair of research for the College of Pharmacy’s Department of Clinical Pharmacy.

Larry Tague has been appointed assistant dean of academic affairs for the College of Graduate Health Sciences. Larry arrived at UT in 1989 and holds an appointment as research associate in the Department of Physiology. Over the years Larry has played a major role in developing outreach programs for the university and brought in significant extramural financial resources to support these activities. In his new role, Larry will oversee the college’s electronic thesis/dissertation (ETD) process.

Larry has made significant contributions in this area to the CGHS during the past several years by working closely with David Armbruster (previous associate dean for academic affairs). These two individuals were responsible for implementing the transition from paper to the electronic thesis/dissertation format that we now have.

Stephen Tom, director in the Facilities Planning Services department was the winner of a domestic class ticket from Northwest Airlines, good for roundtrip travel in 48 contiguous states for donating to the 2008 United Way campaign.
Langsdon Honored as UNA Alumnus

UTHSC professor, chief of the Division of Facial and Plastic Surgery in the Department of Otolaryngology, Phillip Langsdon, MD, FACS was named one of the University of North Alabama’s (UNA) Alumni of the Year during the university’s recent Homecoming festivities.

After graduating from UNA in 1975, Dr. Langsdon began his medical education at the University of Arkansas. He began his private practice in 1986 when he moved to Memphis and established the Langsdon Clinic for facial plastic surgery in Germantown, Tenn.

Dr. Langsdon is active in medical education through writing and teaching the principles and techniques of facial plastic surgery. He has written more than 21 related publications and has co-authored a medical textbook. Additionally, he has authored “Tennessee, a Political History,” a 436-page text chronological account of the evolution on Tennessee and politics. Although medicine is Dr. Langsdon’s vocation, he has been involved in many business and civic activities. He was one of the initial founding directors of Renasant Bank of Memphis in 1999. He served as Chairman of the Shelby County Republican Party from 1991-1995 and was a member of the Tennessee Health Facilities (CON) Commission from 1995-2002.

His past volunteer activities include the American Cancer Society, the Church Health Center, the Memphis Day Shelter, & Life Blood of Memphis. He actively supports the Haiti Education Foundation & the Neighborhood Christian Center.

GRANTS

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

Nefortoria Harris
Tennessee Department of Transportation-Safety Office
$8,833
“Alcohol Saturation Patrols/Roadside Sobriety Checkpoints”

Kristin Hamre, PhD
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication
$184,271
“Biological Research on Interaction Between Genetics and the Nervous System”

George Howell, PhD
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease
$48,826
“Transcriptional Regulation of SREBP-1c by Dietary Polysaturated Fatty Acids”

Richard Lee, PhD
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease
$183,958
“Lipids of Mycobacteria”

Lawrence Reiter, PhD
National Institute of Neuro Disorder & Stroke
$321,563
“Proteomics in Drosophila to Identify Autism Candidate Substrates of UBE3A”

Alan Solomon, MD
Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration
$199,999
“Radioimmunoimaging of AL Amyloidosis using 124I-mAb 11-1F4 (Phase i/ND100472/1)”

Wen Lin Sun, PhD
National Institute on Drug Abuse
$183,750
“The Ontogeny of Hepatic Drug Uptake Transporter”

Margaret Thomson, PharmD
American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education
$6,000
“The Ontogeny of Hepatic Drug Uptake Transporter”

Mona Wicks, PhD, RN
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
$35,000
“Building Research Administration Capacity”

Thaddeus Wilson, PhD
National Cancer Institute
$10,000
“Memphis Bio-Imaging Symposium”

Congratulations to the UTHSC Extended Family

Candace Anderson, PharmD, College of Pharmacy May 2008 graduate and daughter of Emma Anderson in the Department of Health Affairs married Cedric Anderson on October 18 at Boston Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Ebonie S. Reed, daughter of Lisa Anderson-Houston in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, graduated on December 13 from the University of Tennessee at Martin with degrees in family and consumer science education and child and family studies. She graduated Cum Laude.

Kimberly M. Bell, daughter of Lisa Bell in Custodial Services Department, was crowned Miss Black Teen Memphis for 2009 in November. Kimberly is a senior at Hamilton High School in Memphis, Tenn.

Reginald Tooley, son of Cynthia Tooley in the Office of Equity and Diversity, is one of the Florida A&M University’s (FAMU) Marching “100”, who has been selected to participate in the President’s Inaugural parade on January 20.

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On December 2, the Office of Equity and Diversity held its last Employee Service Recognition Luncheon of 2008. During the quarterly celebration, Stanley Tyler was awarded the Thomas C. Lichterman Employee of the Year Award.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, expressed his appreciation for the honorees. “Our most valuable asset is the people who work here, and we really appreciate what you all do,” he said.

Deans and vice chancellors recognized each employee from their areas as they called honorees to the front of the Student-Alumni Center dining hall to receive a certificate and have a picture taken.

Following was a presentation featuring Lichterman finalists. Each finalist was presented with a certificate of recognition. The Thomas C. Lichterman Award is given to a deserving, non-exempt, full-time employee annually at UT Health Science Center, which also includes employees at St. Francis Hospital, the Jackson, Tenn., site or UTMG. This award is a prestigious honor for employees who have contributed beyond the usual scope of their jobs to the university.

Stanley, senior general maintenance skilled craft worker in Mechanical Services, has been an employee at UTHSC for 15 years. As the winner of the Lichterman Award, he was presented with a $1,500 check and a plaque for dedicated service to the Health Science Center.

**25 Years**
- **Marvin L. Beasley**, Sr. Carpenter Shop Supervisor, Building Maintenance
- **Rex O. Brown**, Pharm.D, Professor & Vice Chair, Department of Clinical Pharmacy
- **Francine Burford**, Business Assistant, Administration – College of Medicine
- **Sara Clark**, Senior Secretary, Preventive Medicine
- **Judith C. Farmer**, Senior Administrative Services Assistant, Pediatrics
- **Donna B. Heath**, Coordinator, Graduate Medical Education
- **Rosemary Jackson**, Senior Administrative Services Assistant, College of Medicine-Executive Dean
- **Linda Lester**, Special Procedures Assistant, Operatory
- **Melburn Park**, PhD, Associate Professor, Anatomy and Neurobiology
- **Felecia G. Pearson**, Medical Administrative Specialist, Family Practice Clinic (Jackson, TN)
- **Renee’ Niter**, Accounting Assistant, Pediatrics
- **Regina Faye Sims**, Administrative Services Assistant, Fitness Center
- **Lynda Waddle-Smith**, Research Nurse Coordinator, Surgery-General
- **Ms. Ruth Swift**, Administrative Aide, Administration – College of Dentistry
- **Eloise Tate**, Accounting Assistant, Physical Plant – Research/Cancer
- **Avirachan Tharapel**, PhD, Professor, Pediatrics

**30 Years**
- **Gwendolyn Bolden**, Administrative Aide, Administration-College of Dentistry

**35 Years**
- **Charles Briggs**, Maintenance Helper, Custodial Services
- **James C. Eoff**, PharmD, Executive Associate Dean, Administration – College of Pharmacy
- **Linda Gregory**, Director, Administration College of Medicine
- **Carol E. Hall**, Medical Administrative Specialist II, Family Practice Clinic – Jackson, TN
- **W.C. Hollimon**, Assistant Custodial Foreman, Custodial Services
- **Willie House**, Swimming Pool Supervisor, Fitness Center
- **John W. McCall**, PhD, Associate Professor, Family Medicine
- **Donnell Russell**, Heavy Duty Refrigeration and Air Mechanic Mechanical Services
- **Robert W. Smith**, DDS., Assistant Professor, Endodontics and Operative Dentistry
- **Carson Strong**, PhD, Professor, Human Values and Ethics
- **Melvin Willis**, Maintenance Mechanic, Mechanical Services

**30 Years**
- **Sheldon B. Korones**, MD, Professor, Pediatrics
From September 15 through November 30, UTHSC acknowledged three national commemorative months. In the order of occurrence, the months are National Hispanic American Heritage Month (September 15 through October 15), National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October), and National American Indian and Alaskan Native Heritage Month (November).

Each commemorative month held its own themed activities to celebrate differences, but more importantly elevating awareness was the overall goal. More specifically, information regarding the origin of each month was offered:

- In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson was authorized by Congress to proclaim National Hispanic American Heritage Week. The U.S. Government, in wanting to recognize the accomplishments of Hispanic-American citizens created Public Law 90-498, National Hispanic Heritage Week, on September 17, 1968. The law was later amended by Public Law 100-402, expanding the event to National Hispanic Heritage Month on August 17, 1988.

- Public Law 176, enacted by Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October as “National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.” The effort to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment actually began in 1945. In 1962, the word “physically” was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress changed the name to “National Disability Employment Awareness Month.”

- According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are nearly 2.5 million American Indians in our country. The month originated in 1915 when the president of the Congress of American Indian Associations issued a proclamation declaring the second Saturday in May of each year as American Indian Day. The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. Since 2001, the month of November has been National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

During National Hispanic American Heritage Month (NHAH) the specific activities were an information scavenger hunt, “Salsa Break in the Plaza,” and two initiatives sponsored by UT Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities and the College of Allied Health Sciences, Physical Therapy Department.

For National Disability in Employment Awareness Month, the ADA Advisory Council, Equity and Diversity, the Department of Occupational Therapy (College of Allied Health Sciences), and Student Academic Support Services (SASS) partnered to bring campus consciousness during this commemorative month. To kick off the month, occupational therapy students held a voter’s registration drive to bring awareness about how individuals with disabilities engage the voting process. Posters were placed around campus to enhance knowledge about individuals with disabilities.

For National American Indian and Alaska Native Month, a committee was organized that consisted of four UT employees of Native American descent: Ms. Judy Brooks (CDD), Bill Brescia (COM), Ms. Karen Weatherly (HR) and Mr. Melvin Willis (Mechanical Services). Robert Connolly, director, Chucalissa Museum – University of Memphis, provided our campus with the banners that were displayed in the Madison Plaza Lobby. “It was a pleasure to work with the committee, I was able to learn more about the rich history and what Indians have done for our country,” said Tiffany Trice (OED).

To learn more about each of the commemorative months acknowledged by the Health Science Center, visit www.utm.edu/oed/Diversity/ or contact Tiffany Trice at 448-2112 for additional information.

On November 10, a group of UTHSC faculty, staff and administrators gathered at the Student-Alumni Center to applaud the graduation of 53 administrative professionals from Level 1 of the Star Achievement program. Using the four focal points of skill, attitude, teamwork and strategy, Star Achievement provides administrative professionals with the opportunity to succeed and move their careers forward. The program uses such tools as introspective discovery, honest self-assessment, personal responsibility and understanding team dynamics to engender pride, enthusiasm and a sense of collective purpose in participants.

“Today represents the culmination of another phase of commitment toward excellence in the ranks of administrative support professionals on the Health Science Center campus,” said Darrita Brassel, training coordinator in the UTHSC Human Resources Department. “Someone once said that excellence can be obtained if you: care more than others think is wise; risk more than others think is safe; dream more than others think is practical; and expect more than others think is possible. Star Achievement is all about expecting success and making ways to achieve it – for ourselves and for our organization,” she added.

“The enthusiasm of participants coupled with support for the program from managers has ignited a renewed sense of pride in the work of administrative professionals,” Brassel stated. The event served as the inaugural graduation for Star Achievement on the UTHSC campus. Level 1 represents 24 hours of training.

Chandra Alston, former interim assistant director in Human Resources, was instrumental in bringing the training program to UTHSC. She noted, “Life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react to it. Star Achievement takes that philosophy and teaches us how to use it in every day situations at work. It’s about acting as a team, self-respect, doing unto others...and it’s about business. It’s not personal. “Alston who recently became the assistant dean of administration in the College of Allied Health Sciences, stressed, “We are very fortunate to have such a positive response to the program from the chancellor’s office. The time and support for this effort from management has more than exceeded our expectations.”

The luncheon program highlighted a special Star Memorial to Earline Cain, senior data integrity clerk, Development Office, who passed away suddenly in early November. She had been employed with UTHSC for 12 years. In the spirit of excellence and enthusiasm for lifelong professional development, we proudly pay tribute to her memory.
The 2008 Hinman Student Research Symposium was held October 31 through November 2 at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tenn. The symposium featured oral and poster presentations of research projects by dental students and graduate students from across North America. At this year’s symposium, 91 students represented 46 dental schools in 27 states, the District of Columbia, and four Canadian provinces. Thirteen UTHSC dental students presented their projects and acted as hosts for the symposium.

Co-sponsors of the annual symposium are the UTHSC College of Dentistry and the Hinman Dental Society. It is supported in part by grants from the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research, the ADEAGies Foundation, and the Procter & Gamble Company.

Mustafa Dubious, PhD, associate dean for research in the College of Dentistry at UTHSC, with the help of a committee of the faculty and staff of the UT Dental Research Center organized the symposium.

Six awards were presented for the most outstanding presentations, three in clinical research and three in basic science research.

In October UTHSC third year pharmacy student Deryk Cooper, sat down with Dena Owens, media relations specialist in the Communications and Marketing Department and talked about his road to PharmD in the College of Pharmacy. Cooper was featured in The Keepsake Journal. The journal is distributed free of charge to 10,000 underrepresented science undergrads via various channels: AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges), HCOP (Health Careers Opportunities) programs, NIH (National Institutes of Health) programs, and Office of Minority Health programs.

**Q.** What’s been the hardest part, so far?

**A.** The hardest part so far in my career as a student pharmacist was the adjustment from undergraduate to professional school.

**Q.** Have you found anything to be easier than you imagined it would be?

**A.** The ability for me to interact with patients has been much easier than I anticipated. I assumed that as a pharmacist I could avoid seeing people and be more of a person who could work “behind the scenes” and let the physician be the “go-to-guy”; however, a pharmacist plays such an integral role in the health care of patients that it is imperative that we speak with patients along with physicians.

**Q.** What’s your hope/plan/dream for the future?

**A.** As a student pharmacist, I enjoy the patient interaction. Patients often see the pharmacist as a person they trust and can tell things they are ashamed to tell the physician.

**Q.** Can you relate one highlight of pharmacy life?

**A.** As a student pharmacist, I met became a role-model and mentor for me because I continued to ask as many questions about their lives, how they became a pharmacist, and what opportunities were available as a pharmacist.
On Friday, December 5, UTHSC graduated 155 health care professionals at the Cannon Center for the Performing Arts.

The 155 graduates represented five of UTHSC’s six colleges: 22 from the College of Allied Health Sciences; three from the College of Dentistry; 32 from the College of Graduate Health Sciences; two from the College of Medicine; and 96 from the College of Nursing.

William R. Frey, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences at UTHSC, served as commencement speaker. Well-known for his thoughtful eloquence, Dean Frey’s charge to the graduates was memorable and poignant since he retired in December. Dr. Frey served as dean of the college since January 2008 and was previously interim dean for more than two and a half years.

“There is much pride in this room from family and friends, as it should be. With your education and talents, you are ready, and you will change our world by what you do and how you do it,” Dr. Frey stated as he addressed the graduates during the commencement ceremony.

“During Bill’s tenure, each of the six programs within the College of Allied Health Sciences has flourished,” observed Hershel P. Wall, MD, chancellor at UTHSC. “He has assembled a team of dynamic faculty members who have created an exciting and supportive interdisciplinary learning culture that permeates the college. Bill leaves his college well positioned for continued success, and we wish him the very best in his retirement,” he added. Chancellor Wall presided over the graduation ceremony. University of Tennessee President John Petersen conferred the degrees.

Dean Frey moved to the Mid-South and joined UTHSC in 2003. He retired with some 35 years of teaching and administrative experience at educational institutions across the country.

During the commencement, Lester VanMiddlesworth, PhD, MD, University Distinguished Professor and Professor Emeritus of physiology, biophysics and medicine in the College of Medicine, received an Honorary Doctorate of Science Degree. Dr. VanMiddlesworth earned his PhD in 1946 from the University of California Berkeley and later completed his medical degree in 1951 at the UTHSC. In 1952 he joined the UT faculty as a full-time assistant professor and for four decades has dedicated his work to his laboratory that has been evaluating physiology and pathology of the thyroid gland.

Students Receive Alumni Scholarships

The UT Alumni Association’s Scholarship Program awarded six scholarships to UTHSC students. Each year, the association awards an Andrew D. Holt Scholarship valued between $4,000 and $10,000 per year for up to four years, to one student in each college, and two Joe and Pat Johnson Scholarships valued at $1,500 each to students in Graduate Health Sciences.

The Andrew D. Holt Scholars Program memorializes UT’s former president Dr. Andy Holt for his efforts to build the university’s scholarship program during his 30-year association with the institution. The most prestigious scholarship awarded by the University of Tennessee Alumni Association, the Andrew D. Holt scholarship criteria is based on outstanding academic achievement and leadership skills. The scholarship amount is based on the tuition and fees of the college in which the recipient is enrolled.

The Joe and Pat Johnson Scholarship Award was established upon the retirement of Dr. Joe Johnson as the university’s 19th president in 1999. During his 38 years at UT, Dr. Johnson held key administrative positions, and he helped make the university into the nationally prominent institution it is today. Many of the scholarship endowments were established under Dr. Johnson’s leadership. The $1,500 one-time award is based on academic achievement, dedication and leadership.

The 2008 recipients of the Andrew D. Holt Scholarship Award are Zachary Adkins, College of Dentistry; Howell Holmes, College of Nursing; Kenneth Leowczko, College of Medicine; Holly Miceli, Allied Health Sciences; and Heather Mullins, College of Pharmacy.

The 2008 recipients of the Joe and Pat Johnson Scholarship awards are Amy Bogard and Jessica Stubs.

BGSA Reaches Out

During the Fall 2008 semester, the UTHSC Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) implemented the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Initiative, a program that endeavors to educate subpopulations greatly affected by sexually transmitted infection and disease. The programs alerts individuals on the incidence and prevalence of STI’s in the local community, highlights ongoing UTHSC research aimed at addressing these problems and formulates solutions that may potentially lead to the regression of infection and disease.

Since its inception, BGSA has taken an active role in the holistic development of biomedical researchers by focusing on academic/professional development, peer support, networking and community ties.

Enitra N. Jones, 2008-2009 BGSA president

Enitra N. Jones, 2008-2009 BGSA president engaging an audience of parents and students at East High School, Memphis TN on the topic of Chlamydia: The Number One Reported Sexually Transmitted Disease service. In addition, the BGSA is an aggressive agent in the recruitment and retention of American citizens of African decent and/or underrepresented minorities.

For more information, contact Enitra Jones at jenitra@utmem.edu or Lawrence Brown at lbrown48@utmem.edu.

Textbook Information

The Campus Book Store will BUY-BACK textbooks all year long, but now is the best time to sell your textbooks back and get the most money. Bring in your textbooks and student ID to our location at 910 Madison, C20.
On Friday, October 3, UTHSC held its annual Campus Appreciation Day filled with live entertainment, games and food at Nathan B. Forrest Park. Appreciation was given to all faculty, staff, students, residents, post-docs and retirees for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

The fun-filled day began with an opening ceremony, which recognized accomplishments at UTHSC. A variety of food was served from Back Yard Burger, Chartwell’s Catering and Pig-N-Whistle BBQ. The Coca-Cola Company provided beverages and ice cream was provided by Turner Dairy.

On November 5, representatives from UTHSC and Alcorn State University (ASU) signed a memorandum of understanding to implement a “Partnership in Education” agreement. The agreement will foster opportunities between the two universities for ASU Pre-Professional Students. From top left to right: Thomas Sturgis, PhD, director for the Office of Pre-professional and Pre-Graduate School Programs at ASU, T. Jeff Bogue, III, MS, coordinator, Student and Alumni Affairs in the College of Pharmacy, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MFA, PhD, and Dick R. Gourley, PharmD, dean of the UTHSC College of Pharmacy.

On December 5, 155 students graduated from UTHSC at the Cannon Center for the Performing Arts (see page 19).

In January the Health Science Center will launch an advertising campaign designed to raise the profile of our organization and promote the important work that we engage in “right here in Memphis.” Over the next six months, a series of ads, designed to be eye-catching, thought-provoking and memorable, will be placed in dioramas at the Memphis International Airport, on the sides of downtown trolleys, in selected print media and on a variety of online Web sites.

UTHSC ads will be placed on such local Web sites as WREG.com and commercialappeal.com. Online ads will also appear on a network of geo-targeted Web sites that include CNN.com, Reuters, the International Herald-Tribune, washingtonpost.com and MSNBC.com. Placing ads on geo-targeted (geographically targeted) sites ensures that anyone located in Memphis who goes to this network of sites will see Memphis-specific ads.

“We’ve been here in Memphis for almost 100 years, serving as a critical component of health care in this community but we haven’t been vocal or visible enough to the public,” observed Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. “That is about to change. This campaign is another important step in educating the public about who we are and about our pivotal role in health care in Memphis as well as across the state and beyond.”

The campaign was created by Walker + Associates, a local Memphis advertising, marketing and public relations agency, under the supervision of the Communications and Marketing Department. The firm was selected through an RFP (Request for Proposal) process that invited 15 agencies to compete. Of that group six presented their best ideas and approaches to UTHSC.