Anatomy and Neurobiology Recognized

On February 5, William Armstrong, PhD, professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and director of the Neuroscience Institute, was honored for his “Exceptional Meritorious Service.” Simultaneously, the entire Anatomy and Neurobiology department was recognized for recent escalation in their NIH funding rank, due in part to the hard work of Dr. Armstrong and his colleagues. He led the department and Neuroscience Institute during the 2007 ranking period.

Although Dr. Armstrong’s hard work was no surprise to his colleagues, he was indeed astonished by the recognition from Chancellor Hershel Wall, MD, Steve Schwab, MD, executive dean of the College of Medicine, Matthew Ennis, PhD, Simon R. Bruesch Professor and chair in the

See Anatomy, pg. 4

UT Board Meets in Memphis

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and five of its committees met on February 25 through 27 at UTHSC’s Student-Alumni Center and Freeman Auditorium. The Finance and Administration Committee heard details of the proposed budget reductions at each campus and institute on Thursday. The board will approve the final budget and any possible tuition increases at its meeting in June.

Other agenda items included presidential transition, approval of the revised budget, implementation of a voluntary retirement incentive program for UT Institute of Agriculture staff, consolidation of the UT Knoxville College of Social Work, approval of a procedural framework for academic program discontinuance and awarding of honorary degrees.

Webcasts are available at http://www.tennessee.edu/system/budget/. To view further agenda information and supporting materials on topics that were covered during the three-day meeting, please visit http://bot.tennessee.edu/.

Petersen Steps Down, Simek Named Acting President

On February 18, UT President John Petersen, PhD and Trustee Vice Chairman Jim Murphy jointly announced that Petersen will resign as president, effective June 30. Jan Simek, PhD, most recently the interim chancellor for UT Knoxville, will be recommended to the Board of Trustees to fill the president’s post for up to two years.

Dr. Petersen will be on administrative leave with pay beginning March 1 through June 30. Dr. Simek will be acting president from March 1 through June 30 and will become interim on July 1. His appointment as interim is not to exceed two years.

“As I approach the end of my fifth year, I have been giving serious thought to my future plans and determined I wanted to leave in June,” Dr. Petersen said. “In discussions with Vice Chair Murphy and other board members, we agree that it serves the university’s interest best to make the change now so that the person responsible for implementing cuts in next year’s budget will be the person leading the difficult budget decisions in the coming months.”
Chancellor Wall Co-Hosts Breakfast

On January 23, UT President John Petersen, PhD, and the Health Science Center’s Chancellor Hershel Wall, MD, co-hosted a legislative breakfast for several members of the Shelby County Delegation. The legislators heard messages about the critical role that UTHSC plays in health care in Memphis and throughout the region. They were also the first to view a special short video (under three minutes) titled “Right Here in Memphis,” borrowing the theme line of the current UTHSC ad campaign. To view or download the video, go to: http://www.utmem.edu/righthereinmemphis/

Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD

Winfield C. Dunn, DDS

Chancellor’s Chat

On February 10, Chancellor Hershel Wall, MD, talked with nearly 20 UTHSC team members during the first 2009 Chancellor’s Chat. “I know what’s uppermost on everyone’s minds is this global financial tsunami we’re all dealing with, both personally and professionally. With all the budget discussions and the numbers changing so rapidly, sometimes it seems like we’re standing on shifting sand. Let me state clearly that we are committed to being as transparent as we can be in communicating our organization’s next steps, and we appreciate your patience and all your support.”

The chancellor was open about the possibility of a reduction in force and presented other possible scenarios for trimming the UTHSC budget for fiscal year 2010, which begins on July 1, 2009. Chancellor Wall stressed, “As difficult as this situation may be, I want to assure you that we are still moving forward to achieve our mission and to position our university to recover when times are better.”

Every quarter, a group of non-exempt employees is invited to a breakfast chat with the chancellor. The meetings are organized and sponsored by the Office of Equity and Diversity, and by the Communications and Marketing Department.

UTHSC Restructures College of Graduate Health Sciences

On February 10, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, announced that the UTHSC has restructured its College of Graduate Health Sciences (CGHS). Ed Schneider, PhD, interim dean for the college, has stepped down. Dr. Schneider, former associate dean in the CGHS and professor of Physiology, came out of retirement 18 months ago to serve as the interim dean. “Ed has served admirably and enthusiastically,” Chancellor Wall said. Cheryl Scheid, PhD, vice chancellor of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs, who serves as the UTHSC provost, has been named interim dean for CGHS until a permanent dean is hired.

Going forward, the Integrated Program in Biomedical Sciences (IPBS) will remain part of the College of Graduate Health Sciences but will be overseen by the College of Medicine. “IPBS has been taught by faculty in the basic science departments in the College of Medicine and at St. Jude,” Chancellor Wall noted. “This program has been very ably directed by Dr. Pat Ryan, associate professor of Molecular Sciences.” With the restructuring, IPBS will now be administered by an associate dean in the UTHSC College of Medicine.

The associate dean will oversee all of the graduate programs under the College of Medicine — epidemiology, biomedical engineering and imaging, MD/PhD and IPBS. Those programs in the other colleges of the Health Science Center will remain in place; i.e., students who enroll at UTHSC will now be administered by an associate dean in the UTHSC College of Medicine. The associate dean will oversee all of the graduate programs under the College of Medicine — epidemiology, biomedical engineering and imaging, MD/PhD and IPBS. Those programs in the other colleges of the Health Science Center will remain in place; i.e., students who enroll at UTHSC to earn advanced degrees in Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy will continue to enroll through the CGHS.

“Over the past year, a task force reevaluated the structure of the college and employed the services of external consultants to develop recommendations for restructuring.” Chancellor Wall said. Chaired by Dr. Scheid, the task force was composed of...
On Tuesday, January 27 Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, State Representative G.A. Hardaway, Sr., Minnie Bommer, director of Support Center for Disparities Elimination, and Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives Kent Williams, administered the oath of office to new UTHSC police officers who began patrolling the medical center in early January.

By strengthening the personnel of the Campus Police Department, UTHSC can increase safety on campus for students, faculty, staff and visitors. “Campus safety is an extremely important aspect of our campus life and we want to make sure appropriate measures are taken to provide quality surveillance and security,” Dr. Brown said.

To report a crime or suspicious activities on campus, or for any other police services, call (901) 448-4444 or if on campus 8-4444, 24 hours a day.

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### Performance Evaluations

As a reminder, the annual employee performance evaluations are due in Human Resources on March 31. The performance evaluation forms can be found on the UTHSC website [www.utmem.edu/hr/importantforms/html](http://www.utmem.edu/hr/importantforms/html). There are instructions, detail and summary forms found within the Website.

In addition, there will also be optional training provided for supervisors and employees. The dates for the training can be found on the HR 128 Training calendar. The performance evaluation tool is very important in assessing the employee’s progress over the past year. We are expecting to have a Performance Evaluation completed for each employee of UTHSC. For more information, please call Damon Davis at (901) 448-5604.

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### Book Scanning Made Easy

The Health Sciences Library Multimedia Laboratory has a high-speed flatbed scanner designed specifically for scanning bound books, magazines and journals. The Plustek OpticBook 4600 scan bed extends into the book binding to eliminate lost or distorted text. The scanner can image an 8.5” x 11.69”/A4 printed page in 3.2 seconds, twice the speed of most flatbed scanners. It has one-button functionality for fast, easy operation. The scanner produces 1200-dpi scans for sharp, high-resolution text and will capture the image in color, grayscale, or black and white formats. Accurate optical character reading (OCR) is available to convert scanned documents into text that can be edited. The scanner automatically processes saved pages rotating, cropping and saving them in multiple electronic file formats.

Scans can be stored or transported using a flash drive, external drive or sent as an e-mail attachment. Printing the scanned text is available using the Library pay-to-print Copicard system.

Please contact the multimedia laboratory manager on duty for more information or for assistance using the book scanner.
Anatomy cont. from page 1

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and all the other team members from his department.

Dr. Ennis said, “Dr. Armstrong has an abundance of care and exemplifies that in his interaction with the department, the Neuroscience Institute and the College of Medicine. He served our department and campus as interim chair and interim director of the Neuroscience Institute for several years. His apt leadership during these periods maintained stability when things could have gone otherwise, and moreover he maintained the vigor and prosperity of the department and institute.”

According to Dr. Ennis, as interim chair and director, Dr. Armstrong’s outstanding service was largely unappreciated by those faculty who directly benefited from his efforts. His service was given freely and willingly, yet it came at great personal and professional sacrifice.

“The Neuroscience Institute is starting to reach its vision due to Dr. Armstrong and his commitment to the sciences,” stated Dean Schwab. The Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center is currently home to 25 active neuroscientists with primary appointments. This entire group of researchers willingly participates in the campus wide Neuroscience Institute, which includes more than 80 neuroscience faculty.

These investigators focus on research of neurological and neurodegenerative disorders, motor control, excitable properties of neurons and synaptic function sensory information processing, brain tumor biology, vision and retina, neurogenetics and neural development, and intracellular signaling in neurons.

Dr. Petersen cont. from page 1

“Jan Simek is the ideal choice for this role,” Dr. Petersen said. “I was pleased to choose him to fill the critical UT Knoxville interim position and I know he will have full support and will do an excellent job in this new capacity.”

Murphy said, “Dr. Petersen and his team have been diligent in carrying out a strategic and inclusive process to address the budget issues facing the university. They have a solid plan that is ready to be reviewed by the board at our February meeting. John feels, and I agree, that if he intends to leave in June, it makes sense for new leadership to finalize the plan and take it forward.”

Dr. Simek, who has been with the University since 1984 in both academic and administrative roles, served as interim chancellor for the Knoxville campus for a year, during the search which brought Dr. Jimmy Cheek to UT Knoxville Feb. 1.

“Jan Simek has proven his loyalty to the university and has demonstrated his ability to facilitate change in the academic arena,” Murphy said. “We will use this time to carefully and thoroughly study the role of the system administration while we work through the budget issues. Our goal will be to set our budget models, clarify governance and streamline system administration before we pursue hiring the next president.”

Petersen took office on July 1, 2004. He said that in considering the direction and vision he brought to the university, and progress toward goals thus far, “Now is the right time to make this change.”

“When I came here five years ago, we had a clear direction and a clear set of needs,” Dr. Petersen said. “I feel we have met those needs and redefined the university’s strategic direction for the future. As a team, we have enjoyed some extraordinary, unprecedented successes in research and economic development. We have made phenomenal progress in a $1 billion capital campaign, and our campuses have made great strides in the quality of students enrolled.”

Murphy, noting achievements coinciding with Dr. Petersen serving as UT’s 23rd president, said, “In slightly less than five years, Dr. Petersen has had a transformational impact on the University of Tennessee and led the statewide UT system in remarkable progress – in growth in enrollment, research and economic development, and in private giving.

“We are grateful to Dr. Petersen for his lasting and positive contributions to this great university,” Murphy said. “We will work to ensure the continued successes enjoyed in recent years, and we will attract excellent leadership to share our commitment to making UT one of the top-tier universities in the country.”

CGHS cont. from page 2

faculty from all six Health Science Center colleges and from St. Jude, which has a long and close association with the graduate school, as well as with members of the administration. It also included representation from the graduate student leadership. Three consultants from the graduate schools of the University of Massachusetts, Vanderbilt and Emory studied the situation, meeting with faculty, students and administrators at UTHSC and St. Jude.

“Although struggling with substantial reductions to the Health Science Center budget, this was not a major factor in our restructuring plan,” Dr. Wall observed. “On the contrary, we are committed to maintaining the integrity of all colleges on our campus throughout the ongoing financial challenge of reduced state appropriations.”

The chancellor added, “We feel that the changes, now reviewed and discussed with all those involved in the CGHS, have ensured the integrity of the college and will significantly enhance the stature of the graduate program here and among our peer institutions.”
Loop Diuretics, Fractures Study Under Way

Researchers at UTHSC are helping to lead a national study examining the connection between loop diuretic use and postmenopausal fractures in postmenopausal women. The study is part of the Women’s Health Initiative (WHI), a long-term national effort to explore ways to prevent heart disease, breast and colorectal cancer, and fractures in postmenopausal women.

In the Memphis area, 3,960 postmenopausal women are participating in the WHI research. They are among nearly 162,000 women recruited nationwide for the initiative. Memphis is one of 40 clinical sites of the WHI, which is funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health. Participants were identified for the WHI in the 1990s and will be followed until 2010.

The study’s background information notes that osteoporosis and heart failure are concerns for many postmenopausal women. Half will experience fractures caused by osteoporosis, and by age 40, their overall risk for developing heart failure is one in five. Heart failure is often treated with diuretics, sometimes referred to as “water pills,” to remove excess water from the body, making it easier for the heart to pump blood.

Physicians commonly prescribe “loop” diuretics, which are more rapid acting than other diuretics, to treat patients with hypertension and congestive heart failure, conditions that occur in many postmenopausal women.

While loop diuretics treat heart-related problems by eliminating excess water, they simultaneously promote elimination of calcium by the kidneys, which can increase bone loss and fracture. In some studies, excessive loss of calcium in urine, or a condition known as “hypercalciuria,” is associated with low bone mineral density, a risk factor for fractures.

Findings from the WHI study over an eight-year period indicate that short-term use of loop diuretics does not appear to be associated with changes in bone mineral density, falls or fractures in postmenopausal women. However, prolonged use – three or more years – may slightly increase fracture risks in this group. These findings were reported in the January 26 issue of Archives of Internal Medicine, a peer-reviewed journal published by the American Medical Association.

Lead researchers of the study, Laura Carbone, MD, UTHSC professor of medicine, and Karen C. Johnson, MD, MPH, UTHSC associate professor of medicine, note that the research underscores the importance of evaluating the long-term effects of diuretic use on fracture risk.

On January 9, the UTHSC and CTSI held the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence Symposium. The symposium hosts a distinguished visiting professor to the UTHSC campus annually. The 2009 Chair of Excellence Visiting Professor was Robert A. Blouin, PharmD, dean of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Other speakers during the symposium were Cynthia Carnes, PharmD, PhD, associate professor, Pharmacy Practice and Administration, director of Pharmacy Administration Graduate Programs and interim director of Master’s in Health Systems Pharmacy at Ohio State University; Samuel M. Poloyac, PharmD, PhD, associate professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Clinical Pharmaceutical Scientist Program at the University of Pittsburgh, and James Dale, MD, director of the UTHSC CTSI, professor of Medicine & Molecular Sciences, and chief in the Division of Infectious Diseases at UTHSC.

The symposia were initiated in 1994 with the holder of the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence, William E. Evans, PharmD, as the principal speaker. Since that time the program has been expanded to host visiting speakers of international prominence.

Dr. Evans held the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence until 2006 when he was named director and chief executive officer of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and assumed the St. Jude Professorship. P. David Rogers, PharmD, PhD, a leading researcher in clinical pharmacy and medical mycoloty, was named First Tennessee chair in 2006. Dr. Rogers is associate dean for Translational Research for the College of Pharmacy and professor and vice-chair for research for the Department of Clinical Pharmacy.

For more information please contact Karin Ingram at (901) 448-8026.

CCNE Reaccreditation

The College of Nursing is up for reaccreditation of the master’s program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). As part of the review process, interested parties are invited to send comments.

Call for Public Comment

The commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is an autonomous accrediting arm of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). The College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) is currently engaged in preparing for an evaluation review of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs by CCNE. The evaluation site review will occur April 27-29, 2009. As part of this review, interested parties are invited to send comments about UTHSC College of Nursing to CCNE. These comments will only be shared with the CCNE evaluation team.

Send comments to:
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
One DuPont Circle NW, Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036-1120
Attn: Ms. LiAnn Shepherd, Accreditation Assistant
Phone: (202) 887-6791 ext 252
Fax: (202) 887-8476
On April 1, the Beta Tennessee Chapter of Alpha Omega Honor Medical Society Distinguished Professorship will host a combined pediatrics, internal medicine and surgery grand rounds.

The event will honor guest speaker, Mark R. Hughes, MD, PhD, professor of Genetics and Internal Medicine, director of Genetics Institute Institute and director of Applied Genomics at the Technology Center of Michigan. Dr. Hughes received a bachelor’s degree in biology and chemistry from St. John’s University. He earned his master’s degree in biophysics from Stanford University and a PhD in molecular biochemistry from the University of Arizona Medical Center.

Some of his most pivotal work involves the cloning of vitamin D and progesterone receptors and characterization of the first mutations found in human gene transcription factors. In 1993, Dr. Hughes’ research was recognized by Science Magazine as one of the ten most significant advances in all of science that year; spanning all the physical, biological and mathematical sciences.

Professor Hughes has appeared on various television shows, including “Good Morning America,” “The Today Show,” “CBS Evening News,” “60 Minutes” and “20/20,” to share his expertise in preventing inherited birth defects in children. His most recent medical advances have been in using pre-implantation genetic diagnosis to assist couples in avoiding serious diseases in their children.

The combined grand rounds will be held at 8:00 a.m. in the Coleman Building-North Auditorium. The Beta Tennessee Chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society aims to promote scholarship and research in medical schools.

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

2009 Alpha Omega Alpha Distinguished Professorship

On Saturday, February 14, the Mid-South Chapter of the Foundation for Fighting Blindness hosted the 2009 Memphis VisionWalk Organizing Reception featuring guest speaker, Tonia Rex, PhD, assistant professor at the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI).

Dr. Rex highlighted the promising results of three ongoing gene therapy clinical trials for the treatments of Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis (LCA), a rare inherited eye disease that appears at birth or in the first few months of life, and causes lesions and vision loss.

The presentation explained the differences between the trials, the limitations of each and what the results mean. Additionally, Dr. Rex discussed neuroprotection as an alternative to gene-specific therapies for retinal degenerative diseases.

Attendees were able to sign up for the 2009 Memphis VisionWalk, which will be held on Saturday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m. at Overton Park, East Parkway Pavilion. Last year, the inaugural event raised nearly $45,000 to support research against retinal degenerative diseases.

For more information about how you can get involved by becoming a team captain, individual walker, corporate sponsor or volunteer, please contact Jennifer Assaff at the Foundation for Fighting Blindness, Southern Regional Office at (919) 781-8014 or email jassaff@FightBlindess.org.

Foundation for Fighting Blindness Announces 2009 VisionWalk

Proper Disposal of Biohazardous Waste

What is regulated medical (biohazard) waste? For the purposes of waste disposal, biohazard waste includes: blood and blood products, excretions, exudates, secretions, and other body fluids; cultures and stocks of etiological agents; needles and sharp objects; and surgical and pathological specimens.

Biological waste must either be incinerated or sterilized with steam in a dedicated autoclave. Stericycle is UTHSC’s biological waste disposal vendor. They are responsible for picking up biological waste materials directly from the points of generation. Each individual generator is responsible for setting up their sub account through the Safety Affairs Department at (901) 448-6114. The sub account format is needed to track waste generation data for regulatory reporting purposes. There is no cost/charge to the generator or department for waste disposal.

When setting up a new sub account, provide the name of the department generating the waste, the location (building and room) from which pickup will be made, needed initial supplies (containers, boxes and liners) and the requested frequency of pickup (daily, weekly or monthly).

If there is a change in pickup schedule, service cancellation or additional supplies are needed, please call Stericycle at (901) 948-1131 extension 14.

Provided below are general instructions to eliminate some biohazard waste problems:

- Housekeeping will no longer dispose of autoclaved biohazard material in regular trash.
- Biohazard material is autoclaved by the users/labs, the lab personnel users will be responsible for putting the autoclaved bags into the biohazard boxes, normally located near autoclaves or assigned areas.
- The last lab user who fills a biohazard box will be required to twist tie the red liner, close the lid, tape the box and ensure that the bar code label is affixed to the biohazard box. There is a space on the side of the box that states “ACCOUNT LABEL,” where the bar code label should be attached.
- Stericycle will not pick up the taped, sealed, filled boxes unless the bar code label information is affixed to the side of the box.
- Once the boxes are filled, sealed/taped and the bar code label affixed, a Stericycle employee will take the filled biohazard boxes from that centralization on that generator’s scheduled pickup day.
- All autoclaved biohazard materials will be disposed of by Stericycle, which will pick up boxed autoclaved waste on the assigned pickup day provided by Stericycle.
- Stericycle will provide the biohazard boxes, red liners for the boxes, bar code labels and sealing tape for the boxes. The red liners, bar code labels and sealing tape can be located in most autoclave rooms or in a general assigned area. New boxes can be obtained from that assigned area as needed by the lab personnel of the respective area.

Remember, if you have any problems with the system in place, please feel free to contact the Department of Safety Affairs at (901) 448-6114.
New Cancer Drugs for Dogs

Medical researchers at UTHSC, UT Knoxville and Ohio State University are exploring ways to fight cancer with a new drug regimen that could significantly change the treatment for canines and humans.

The new drugs will treat dogs with lymphoma. The lymphoma pattern in humans is closely related to that in dogs. In fact, researchers are using the success rate of treatment in dogs to translate into human cancer therapy. It is possible that the new treatments can be used to save the lives of humans with prostate cancer, breast cancer and blood disorders.

The treatment will allow vets, and potentially human doctors, to administer intravenous drugs, N-Benzyladriamycin-14-pivalate (AD 445) and N-Benzyladriamycin-14-valerate (AD 198), to fight the cancer and decrease the applications of cardio-toxic agents used in current drug treatments such as doxorubicin and herceptin (often used in the treatment of breast cancer).

The new treatment is a class of drugs that resemble doxorubicin in structure but differ in outcome. It is cardio-protective and has anti-tumor agents.

Many patients require heart transplants in the post-doxorubicin stage. Doxorubicin is commonly used to treat some leukemia, Hodgkin’s lymphoma, as well as cancers of the bladder, breast, stomach, lung, ovaries, thyroid, soft tissue sarcoma, multiple myeloma and others.

The investigators are in the phase of determining the starting dosage. Clinical trials are scheduled to begin in two years. When the clinical trials start, pet owners with lymphoma-affected dogs will be able to participate in the trial at no additional cost, other than the normal veterinary fees.

Veterinary Oncologist, Lorin Hillman, DVM at MedVets in Cordova, Tenn., currently treats cancer in pets using chemotherapy and other available treatments. She encourages pet owners to participate in clinical trials such as this. “Anything that can help treat pets better and translate to help humans as well is a very good opportunity.”

According to the Laboratory Oversight Specialist for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), Alka Chandna, DVM, PETA is in favor of clinical trials in pets if they will expand life expectancy and promote the healthy welfare of the pet.

“If a dog is suffering from lymphoma and there is an experimental drug available, we welcome the opportunity for pet owners to allow the pet to participate in experimental trials.”

The two studies, The Efficacy of N-Benzyladriamycin-14-pivalate (AD 445) Against Metastatic Prostate Cancer and The Cardio-Protective Effects of N-Benzyladriamycin-14-valerate (AD 198) in Ischemia were awarded UT Research Foundation Maturation Grants. Cumberland Emerging Technologies in Nashville, Tenn., is supplying matching funds for these projects. The principal investigators are Len Lothstein, PhD, UTHSC Pathology, Trevor Sweatman, PhD, UTHSC Pharmacology, Judith Soberman, MD, College of Medicine, Polly Hofmann, PhD, UTHSC Physiology and Guy Reed, MS, MD, UTHSC College of Medicine.

Endocrinology Upcoming Events

On May 5, Ricardo Aziz, MD, MBA, MPH, vice chair and professor in the Division of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center will be honored as the 2009 James R. Givens Distinguished Visiting Professor. The two-day event will begin with his presentation at the Endocrinology Journal Club and culminate with Medicine Grand Rounds on May 6 at 10:00 a.m.

The James R. Givens Award is presented annually to a medical student and a resident rotating through the endocrine division for outstanding performance.

Weekly Events

Tuesday Endocrine Journal Club – 4:00 p.m. Suite 909, 920 Madison Avenue
Thursday Endocrine Grand Rounds – 10:00 a.m. Suite 909, 920 Madison Avenue

Medicine Grand Rounds lecturers in recent months included: Lewis Braverman, MD, Section of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition, Boston Medical Center, Boston School of Medicine – “The Different Faces of Thyrotoxicosis” and William Winter, MD, professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Pediatrics, and Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, University of Florida, College of Medicine – “Maturity-Onset Diabetes of the Young”.

For more information, please call (901) 448-2630 or visit http://www.utmem.edu/endocrinology/news-events.php.

UTHSC Faculty Participate in Veterans Affairs Project

The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving (RCI) is proud to announce that the winner of the 2008 Rosalynn Carter Leadership in Caregiving Award is the REACH VA Project, a partnership between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the VA Medical Center at Memphis.

REACH VA is the first national clinical translation of a proven dementia behavioral intervention. Based on the REACH II (Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer’s Caregivers Health) study funded by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute of Nursing Research, REACH VA is a six-month intervention that focuses on information, safety, caregiver health and well-being as well as care recipient behavior management.

UT individuals participating in the REACH VA Project are research assistants Jeff Zuber, Celeste Bursi and Barbara Higgins in the Department of Preventive and Internal Medicine as well as Linda Nichols, PhD, health care education specialist and health services researcher at the VA Medical Center, and professor of Preventive and Internal Medicine at UTHSC, and Jennifer Martindale-Adams, EdD, VA Medical Center, and Instructor in Preventive and Internal Medicine. Other faculty participating include Robert Burns, MD, professor, Preventive and Internal Medicine, and Marshall Graney, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Preventive Medicine.

The Rosalynn Carter Leadership in Caregiving Award, named in honor of a great humanitarian, is the highest award given in the caregiving field. It recognizes innovative partnerships between community agencies and caregiving researchers that bridge the gap between science and practice. These partnerships help move effective caregiver support programs to widespread use in the community more quickly and efficiently.

The goal of the project is to raise the standard of care provided to dementia caregivers and patients using evidence-based interventions. With this intervention being offered on such a large scale, the VA hopes to impact many caregivers with this project.
UT Graduate School of Medicine Reaches Across the Country

As director of the Endovascular Surgery Program and professor of Surgery at the UT Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, Scott Stevens, MD, teaches residents and fellows surgery techniques every day. Other surgeons from across the country travel to Knoxville to learn the newest procedures in vascular interventions, training with the endovascular team.

Recently that sharing of knowledge was expanded to an even broader medical community when Dr. Stevens and his team performed two vascular surgeries live, via satellite, viewed by more than 300 surgeons in Phoenix, Ariz.

As part of a national conference, “Below the Knee,” Dr. Stevens demonstrated techniques to remove plaque that clogs blood vessels in patients’ legs. Untreated, these patients experience pain, lose mobility and face possible limb amputation. During the satellite-broadcasted cases, the panel of doctors in Arizona conversed with Dr. Stevens in Knoxville and exchanged tips and strategies about the procedures.

This peer-to-peer format builds a strong community to fight vascular disease. “Our first goal is preventing the development of this disease,” said Dr. Stevens. “Healthy living including regular exercise, a low-fat diet and avoiding tobacco all make a phenomenal difference.”

Dr. Stevens co-edited a recently published book, SAVS Thoracic Endovascular Aorta. He co-wrote the chapter “Endovascular Repair for Thoracic Aorta Trauma” with Billy Mix, MD, Vascular Surgery Fellow. The book highlights advances in endovascular therapy over the last decade and includes presentations by physicians in the Southern Association of Vascular Surgery (SAVS). The book was published in 2008 by Tennessee Valley Publishing and co-edited by Mark A. Farber, MD.

Knoxville CME Conference to Host Annual Diabetes Conference

Diabetics are two to four times more likely to die from cardiovascular disease, and Tennessee ranks sixth among states with the highest percentage of adults with diabetes. Physicians, therefore, must identify cardiometabolic risk factors early and manage them properly.

The Fifth Annual Diabetes Regional Conference: Reducing Cardiometabolic Risk for the Diabetic Patient on March 14 at the UT Conference Center in Knoxville, provided the medical community with evidence-based interventions to improve health outcomes and quality of life for patients at increased risk. This year’s featured speaker was Thomas Giles, MD, Tulane University School of Medicine. He and regional experts who examined the challenges of coping with diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Participants will also learn how to optimize drug therapy for these patients without resulting in negative drug interactions.

The conference offers up to five CME credits through AMA, AAFP, AAPA and ACPE, and CEUs are available. Registration for this CME event is available at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Diabetes2009. It is sponsored by the UT Graduate School of Medicine and Department of Family Medicine in Knoxville, and is directed by John Eaddy, MD, Professor Emeritus, Department of Family Medicine UT Graduate School of Medicine.

Dr. Eaddy was honored recently for his tireless work in diabetes education and care by the East Tennessee Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Dr. Eaddy is a survivor of Type 1 diabetes, which he has successfully battled for more than 50 years. This survival rate puts him in a small group: only about 500 of the 2 million Americans with Type 1 diabetes have lived 50 years or more. Dr. Eaddy has spent his adult life trying to expand that group.

For more information, please call (865) 305-9190.

First Biomedical and Engineering Conference

On March 18, the Biomedical Science and Engineering Center (BSEC) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is holding its First Annual ORNL Biomedical Science and Engineering Conference, “Exploring the Intersections of Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research. The conference is co-sponsored by the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS).

The goals of the conference are to identify the knowledge gaps across biomedical applications and to discover cross-cutting, collaborative approaches that can serve as a road map for interdisciplinary biomedical research. The conference will provide an unprecedented opportunity for professionals, graduate students and postdocs.

Attendees will also have an opportunity to exchange ideas, research results, professional experiences, and future visions in the fields of biomedicometric informatics, as well as discuss the benefits of measurement science and imaging technologies.

All proceedings including abstracts, contributed papers and poster abstracts will be published electronically and cross-referenced to PubMed. For more information, please visit http://computing.ornl.gov/cse_home/cms/conference/index.shtml.

Administrative Professionals Luncheon

On April 22, the UTHSC Offices of Equity and Diversity and Human Resources will host the first annual Administrative Professionals Luncheon. The theme “Taking Charge of Your Life in 2009” will honor administrative professionals for their accomplishments and motivate the staff to continue to aim for high standards in 2009 and beyond.

The luncheon will be held in the Student-Alumni Center, O.D. Larry Dining Room promptly at 11:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Cynthia Tooley at (901) 448-2112.
COD Recognizes Outstanding Alumni

Each year the UTHSC College of Dentistry Alumni Association presents its highest award to alumni who have made distinguished contributions to the dentistry field. On Friday, March 6, the 2009 Outstanding Alumni were honored. John H. Sullivan, DDS, and James B. Summitt, DDS, MS - received their awards during a noon luncheon at the Hilton Memphis Hotel.

John H. Sullivan, Class of 1969, has devoted almost 40 years to general dentistry. After graduating from dental school, Dr. Sullivan joined the American Dental Association, the Tennessee Dental Association (TDA), and the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Association. In support of his alma mater, Dr. Sullivan participates on the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Board of Trustees and has served as vice president and president of the UT Dental Alumni Association. He helped to establish the Dental Scholarship Endowment, which provides annual need-based scholarships for dental students, and is active on the UT Legislative Committee.

James B. Summitt, Class of 1971, demonstrated an early commitment to dentistry by joining the Dean’s Odontological Society while in dental school. Upon graduation, he became a dental officer for the U.S. Air Force, eventually attaining the rank of colonel. During his military career, he completed a master of science degree in general dentistry and a two-year general practice residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC) in San Antonio, Texas. He later led this two-year program and became director of dental services for WHMC.

As a dental educator and scientist, Dr. Summitt has published 56 original articles, 85 abstracts, and has been an investigator in 13 funded research projects. For the American Board of General Dentistry, he served as president from 1996 to 1997. Dr. Summitt has been a mentor to numerous students and residents, and has served on the editorial review boards of six dental journals. His professional expertise has been recognized many times through receipt of the U.S. Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (four times); the Legion of Merit Award; and the Academy of Operative Dentistry 2005 Award of Excellence. He has also earned several teaching awards from UTHSC, including “The Presidential Teaching Award,” his alma mater’s highest teaching accolade.

Keen Eye Catches $100,000 Error

Thanks to an employee with a keen eye for invoices, the Health Science Center was saved almost $100,000. Tarrain Griffin, senior budget assistant for Facilities Administration, caught an invoice from Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLG&W) that overcharged UTHSC by $99,917.69. Facility Administration receives and processes more than 40 MLG&W invoices each month, immediately paying all utility bills. Then the department tracks usage and cost through a database; therefore, catching such an error is no easy task. For her outstanding hard work and dedication to the Health Science Center, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD, MPH, PhD, recognized Griffin’s efforts by presenting her with a $100 check during one of his weekly staff meetings in February. Because of Griffin’s eye for detail and ability to follow-up, MLG&W reimbursed UTHSC with a check for the overcharge.

UTHSC, The Med Partner on National Study

The Elvis Presley Memorial Level 1 Trauma Center at the Regional Medical Center at Memphis (The MED) is one of a select number of Level 1 trauma centers in the United States chosen to participate in a ground-breaking national clinical trial sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Led locally by UTHSC investigators Timothy C. Fabian, MD, and Martin A. Croce, MD, the study will evaluate the use of hypertonic saline (concentrated salt) solutions given intravenously to patients with traumatic brain injuries. A recently completed phone survey of citizens randomly selected from Memphis and the surrounding area revealed solid community support for the study. Enrollment is expected to begin within the next few weeks.

Under the study protocol, treatment will be given prior to arrival at the hospital, either at the scene of the injury or in the air ambulance. The purpose of the study is to determine if administering hypertonic saline solutions to patients with traumatic brain injuries will improve their outcomes.

“We are very excited to be included in this important clinical trial,” commented study investigators Drs. Fabian and Croce. Each year, more than 1.6 million people sustain this type of injury. “If we begin to treat patients with severe brain injuries more effectively very early after injury, we could see better outcomes,” Dr. Fabian added.

CET/UTRF License Agreement

On February 10, the Nashville-based Cumberland Emerging Technologies, Inc. (CET) and the University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) announced they have entered into a license agreement for a promising new asthma treatment discovered at UTHSC. Under the agreement, CET is providing formulation, grant funding, regulatory and product development assistance in exchange for rights to commercialize the new technology.

The joint development project has received more than $190,000 in grant funding, including a recent Phase I grant award of nearly $112,000 from the National Institutes of Health under the Small Business Technology Transfer program. For more information, visit http://utrf.tennessee.edu.
In December UTHSC resident, Greg Marchand, MD, and his colleague Richard Demir, MD, chief of Minimally Invasive Surgery at Tempe St. Lukes Hospital in Tempe, Ariz., were awarded a Guinness World Record™ for the removal of a 3200 gram (seven pound) uterus without cutting the patient.

This surgery utilized an advanced “minimally invasive” surgical technique called laparoscopy, where surgeons use small keyholes in the patient’s abdomen to perform the surgery instead of cutting them. Although laparoscopic surgery and other minimally invasive techniques are being used more frequently throughout the country, this is believed to be the largest uterus ever removed without cutting a patient open, shattering the previous record of 3050 grams.

“I hope this world record brings attention to minimally invasive surgery,” said Dr. Marchand. “There are far too many women being cut open when they just don’t need to be.”

The October 30, 2007 procedure in Arizona is a milestone in the world of minimally invasive surgical techniques, which are far easier on patients than surgeries involving large incisions.

Methodist University Hospital received a robotic system last fall to aid surgeons in minimally invasive surgeries. The first patient to undergo a procedure using the new surgical robot at Methodist University Hospital had a hysterectomy and returned home later that same evening. Hysterectomies typically require a three-to-four-day hospital stay.

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

Each year, more than 600,000 women are hospitalized for a hysterectomy—a procedure to remove the uterus. Nearly one-third of women in the United States will have had a hysterectomy by the time they turn age 60. To avoid maximum scarring, long hospital stays and chronic pain, this growing technique is often suggested.

There is no difference in cost between the laser technique and the traditional laparotomy.

Minimally invasive surgery involves the use of instruments inserted through small incisions. These incisions enable fiber optic tubes, connected to television monitors, to be inserted into the patient, allowing doctors to perform surgical procedures without making large incisions.

Resident Awarded Guinness World Record

From left to right: Drs. Demir and Marchand were awarded a Guinness World Record™ for removing the seven-pound uterus of a 33-year-old Medicaid patient without cutting. The patient had suffered from pelvic pain.

Technology in Oral Surgery Topics of Knoxville CDE Conference

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons, prosthodontists and dentists have ever-emerging options for care, and they must continue to learn the latest advancements in the field in order to provide the best possible patient care.

The 2009 John E. Sullivan, D.D.S. Endowed Lecture on April 29 at the Wood Auditorium, UT Medical Center, Knoxville, will closely examine several options for treatment: rhBMP-2 (recombinant human bone morphogenetic protein-2) growth factor, cone beam CT (CBCT), and CAD/CAM.

Expert speakers include Alan S. Herford, DDS, MD, chair and program director, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Loma Linda University, and Stanley E. Rye, DDS, Atlanta prosthodontist.

This CDE conference will offer up to four hours credit through Academy of General Dentistry/Tennessee Board of Dentistry, and CEUs also are available. The conference is sponsored by the UT Graduate School of Medicine and Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and is directed by Eric Carlson, DMD, MD. Registration will open soon at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Sullivan2009.

For more information, please call (865) 305-9190.

Discontinuation of Awards

Effective July 1, the UT Health Science Center will no longer offer the OC Tanner Service Awards Program. The Office of Equity and Diversity will coordinate an annual Employee Service Recognition breakfast, reception or luncheon, recognizing employees who have given five to 45 years of service to the Health Science Center. These events will be carried out in place of the OC Tanner Service Award Program. All of the events are invitation only and each recipient will be notified.

The Health Science Center is still committed to acknowledging the real and consistent contributions of its employees. Recognition is one of the most effective ways to reinforce the institution’s culture, support academic and research efforts and retain a talented workforce.

Any employee celebrating a service anniversary date on or before June 30, will have an opportunity to order their service award gift prior to date. For more information regarding this change, please contact Felicia Shaw at (901) 448-2112.

Women cont. from page 5

professor of preventive medicine and principal investigator of the WHI study in Memphis, find this news encouraging for women who must take diuretics to treat heart-related problems. Still, they caution that women who are prescribed loop diuretics long term should discuss their bone health with their health care provider.

Falls and fractures of study participants ages 50 to 79 were recorded for an average of 7.7 years. At baseline and at year three of the study, bone mineral density was measured for 300 diuretic users and 9,124 non-users. Women who used loop diuretics at some point in their lives were not found to be at a significant risk for total fractures, hip fractures, clinical vertebral fractures and falls. But, women who had used loop diuretics for three years or longer had a slightly increased risk for fractures.

Dr. Johnson, the WHI principal investigator in Memphis, concludes, “No significant association was found between short-term use of loop diuretics and changes in bone mineral density, falls or fractures in postmenopausal women in the WHI. Therefore, fracture prevention measures in women who receive loop diuretic therapy are recommended, and women are encouraged to discuss bone health with their primary care providers.”
Police Sergeant Calls UT Her Second Home

Every story has a beginning. The story of the UTHSC Campus Police and Parking Services would be incomplete without the history of police sergeant and specialist, Beverly Avis.

For many new employees, an integral part of the orientation process includes being photographed by Sgt. Avis for an employee identification badge. She also has the pivotal role of allowing employees access to different locations and buildings on campus. Without the touch of a button from Sgt. Avis, access is not granted.

Since 1961, Sgt. Avis has been making a daily trip to the UT Campus, which she refers to as her second home. That was the year her father, the late Kenneth Avis, MD, UTHSC professor in Pharmaceutics and distinguished leader in pharmaceutical science, accepted an associate professor and distinguished leader in pharmaceutical science, accepted an associate professorship. Dr. Avis was born in Elmer, N.J., and earned his BS in pharmacy and MS and DSc from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science (also known as the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia). It was the first college of pharmacy in North America. In 1946 he joined the faculty of his alma mater and rose to associate professor where he remained until moving to Memphis.

Dr. Avis’ contributions will always be remembered at UTHSC, as will the work of his daughter, Sgt. Avis. Although both Avis’ operated in two different capacities, they realized the importance of sustaining the mission of the UT campus.

As a youngster, Sgt. Avis visited the campus daily with her father. Before joining the campus police department, Sgt. Avis attended the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tenn., where she earned her certification as an optometric technician—a brand new field in 1976.

Although remaining in the medical field like her father, she had a passion for the field of communications, internal security and safety.

In 1977, Sgt. Avis began working on the UTHSC campus as a dispatcher. She is the last of the original four dispatchers.

Sgt. Avis realized that the desired outcome for having a Police Department on a medical campus was to provide more safety for employees, students, patients and visitors. Protecting a piece of her father’s legacy was important to Avis as well as advancing her 32-year career at the Health Science Center.

Biomedical Engineering Seminars Offered

In January, the University of Memphis and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Joint Graduate Program in Biomedical Engineering began the Spring 2009 Seminar Series. Partially funded by the Herff College of Engineering, the seminars will be held on the University of Memphis campus in Room 203 in the Engineering Administration Building (Engineering Auditorium) located at the corner of Central and Zach Curlin. The seminars will start at 3:30 p.m. and refreshments will be served prior to the scheduled presentations.

On March 20, Susan Drapeau, senior manager, Biologics Research and Development at Medtronic Biologics in Memphis, Tenn., will present Biomarker Product Development – Working at Medtronic Biologics. On March 27, Mindy Fleisher, supervisory patent examiner, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC, will present the Introduction to Intellectual Property. On April 17, Herb Zeman, chief scientist and founder of Luminetx in Memphis, Tenn., will present The VeinViewer, or Taking the Ouch out of IV Access.

For more information or to reserve a seat, please call (901) 678-3733.
Faculty and staff members at UTHSC are working to educate the Memphis community on the benefits of nanotechnology in medicine, engineering, and technology by hosting NanoDays. Nanodays is an annual nationwide festival consisting of educational programs about nanoscale science, engineering and its potential impact on the future.

Supported by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (www.NISENet.org), the Nanodays initiative will be held from March 28 through April 5 at various locations including the Memphis Public Library on Poplar Avenue and UTHSC.

Times and locations are still in the planning process. For updates, please visit http://www.utmem.edu/pathology/nano/.

NanoDays will offer unique features such as teachers’ in-service, demonstrations, forums and a symposium that will elabrate on the contribution of nanotechnology in medicine.

This week-long conference is open to the public. Outreach events will be hosted for two days at the Memphis Public Library for Memphis City and Shelby County School students.

The events involve nanoscience partners and other community-based educational organizations, such as museums, research institutions, universities, and libraries, to focus efforts on bringing nanotechnology to the public each spring.

Faculty members Charles Handorf, MD, PhD, chair, Vickie Baselski, PhD, Cameila Johns, MD, Leslie A Ingram, Anand Kulkarni, PhD and Charles R Handorf, MD, PhD, prepare materials for the 2009 Nanodays, a week-long Nanotechnology Awareness Program.

From left to right: Vickie Baselski, PhD, Cameila Johns, MD, Leslie A Ingram, Anand Kulkarni, PhD and Charles R Handorf, MD, PhD, prepare materials for the 2009 Nanodays, a week-long Nanotechnology Awareness Program.

NanoDays Coming Soon

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Faculty members Charles Handorf, MD, PhD, chair, Vickie Baselski, PhD, Cameila Johns, MD, and Anand Kulkarni, MD, all from the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, decided to involve the Memphis community in this event. They are also exploring the possibility of establishing a Nanomedicine Center in Memphis. “Currently, there is no National Science Foundation funded nanotechnology center in a 100-mile radius of Memphis,” Dr. Kulkarni said.

Nanotechnology methods are now being used in many exciting medical applications. It focuses on materials or devices that are 100 nanometers (a billionth of a meter) or smaller.

Such use is seen in newer pregnancy tests, which rely on gold nanoparticles to reflect the color that reveals the presence of pregnancy hormones in urine. New sunscreen lotions contain transparent nanoparticles of zinc oxide. Also, some newer shoe insoles contain silver nanoparticles, which kill microorganisms that cause foot odor and athlete’s foot.

So far, there are many intriguing ideas in nanomedicine that are still under development. However, plenty of nanomedical technologies are available or will become available in the next two years such as an ultrasound procedure that uses nanoparticle contrast agents – liquids injected into the body to make certain tissues more visible during diagnostic imaging. Also, a paper towel that detects harmful bacteria called the “nano-napkin” is being researched.

Government funds for nanotechnology research have created some of the most sophisticated nanoscience laboratories in the world. Drs. Handorf, Baselski, Johns and Kulkarni hope to raise nanoscience awareness in Memphis and the Mid-South and begin a broad nano-dialogue in our community. “Nanotechnology has potential to create seven million jobs overall in the global market,” Dr. Kulkarni said.

Summer Camp Keeps Children Smiling

Parents of children with developmental disabilities, who participate in the All Days Are Happy Days Summer Camp each year, are grateful for the support from a local Memphis business, Cummins, Inc. The company awarded $10,000 to the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities (BCDD) for support of the 2009 Camp. The camp operates solely on corporate sponsorships and registration fees from families.

Many of the parents are unable to pay the fees associated with the camp. Therefore soliciting the help of private donors is the only way that some of the children are able to attend. According to Belinda T. Hardy, chief of Social Work, parents have commented that their children love the camp and are ready to attend next year’s camp. “Parents are in hopes that we push more initiatives such as parent support groups,” she said.

The All Days Are Happy Days Summer Camp is a week-long camp for children between the ages of six and 11 who are diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The camp is held at the Memphis Jewish Community Center, which has been the donated site for the last four years. The primary goal of the camp is to educate campers and their parents about the diagnosis, treatment and self-management of ADHD and related behaviors.

Campers team with other campers who are experiencing similar issues related to ADHD. A professional team of educators, social workers, medical personnel and students will be on site and serve as group leaders and/or consultants.

The 2009 Camp will be held from May 31 through June 4. For more information, please contact Belinda T. Hardy, (901) 448-6669 or btate@utmem.edu.
In December, aRGentis Pharmaceuticals, LLC announced it will soon begin marketing a product pioneered by Arnold Postlethwaite, MD, director of the Division of Connected Tissue Disease and Andrew Kang, MD, professor of Medicine in Rheumatology at UTHSC.

The drug, ARG201 will be used for the treatment of diffuse systemic sclerosis, also known as systemic scleroderma (SSc), a disease that causes thickened skin and organ dysfunction.

Dr. Postlethwaite, who also serves as aRGentis’ chief scientific officer, and Dr. Kang, traveled to London to request orphan drug status from European officials. He presented ARG201 to a 27-member committee. At that time, orphan drug status was granted, which includes marketing exclusivity for the next 10 years. The drug was recognized as an orphan drug in the United States in February 2008.

“In London, the officials had very few questions and granted the status within 20 minutes. It took several months for the FDA to grant status in the United States,” said Dr. Postlethwaite.

The term “orphan drug” refers to a product that treats a rare disease affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans. To become an orphan drug in Europe, the disease must be prevalent in five to 10,000 patients.

Dr. Postlethwaite has been studying and treating patients with scleroderma since 1976. The disease causes the body’s immune system to attack certain types of protein in the body. It can create hard patches of tissue on the skin and cause fatal damage to internal organs.

In a recent Commercial Appeal interview, Dr. Postlethwaite said he has been frustrated that there is no general treatment for the disease, which affects about 80,000 people in the United States.

Scientists have completed Phase II of the clinical trial of ARG201 and will advance to further trials soon. The trial included patients with the diffuse form of systemic sclerosis.

Patients were treated at 13 major Rheumatology centers for 12 months with follow up at 15 months. ARG201 was shown to be safe and well-tolerated.

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**President Obama Signs New Bill for The Med**

On February 9, local media gathered to hear a long-awaited decision announcing that officials have made it possible for money to be easily transferred to Memphis for the medical care of patients from surrounding states, Mississippi and Arkansas.

In early February, President Barack Obama signed the “MED fix” into law, which is an amendment to the reauthorization of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The amendment allows neighboring states to send Medicaid money to The MED for treating patients being seen from Arkansas and Mississippi.

On a new bill that was passed to bring more money into The MED for treating patients being seen from Arkansas and Mississippi.

The hospital has been experiencing financial woes in recent years. Wharton said that he and local leaders would team up to ensure that the governments of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee are transferring dollars appropriately to The MED.

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**CME Workshops for March and April**

The Office of Continuing Medical Education at UTHSC provides opportunities for health care professionals to continue learning, which began in the undergraduate curriculum, utilizing adult learning principles and available technology.

To maximize learning opportunities, a wide range of activities are offered, which include formal courses, seminars, workshops, video conferences/distance learning, mini-residencies, visiting professorships, journal clubs, grand rounds and teaching conferences. The workshop also offers innovative technologies such as web-based learning activities for personal skill development and teaching competence. All activities are conducted in compliance with the essentials of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and the rules and regulations of the University of Tennessee.

For workshop location and dates, please contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education at (901) 448-5547.
PEOPLE

Rex Brown, PharmD, Department of Clinical Pharmacy accepted the position of director for Experiential Programs. Dr. Brown has been in the College of Pharmacy for more than 25 years. In addition to acting as director for Experiential Programs, Dr. Brown will retain some of his current college and university responsibilities.

Dominic M. Desiderio, PhD, professor, Departments of Neurology and Molecular Sciences, presented invited lectures on human nitroproteomics at the University of Pisa, Italy, on October 14; University of Hannover, Hannover, Germany, on October 10, 2008; and at the November 13-14 Workshop on Predictive Diagnosis, Targeted Prevention, and Personalized Treatment, Brussels, Belgium. He also presented data at the October 4-8 European Respiratory Society meeting in Berlin, Germany.

Robert Enzenauer MD, MPH, professor of Ophthalmology at UTHSC was promoted to Brigadier General Enzenauer in the Army National Guard of the United States of America. Dr. Enzenauer is board certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. He is also certified in Aerospace Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics. His specialty is in Pediatric Ophthalmology at the Hamilton Eye Institute.

Mariann Hollis, skilled carpenter in the Physical Plant was recently recognized in her department for being the first female carpenter at UTHSC. Hollis brings more than five years of carpentry experience to the university. She is well requested and respected in many departments at the Health Science Center because of her diligence, attention to detail and dedication.

Carlton V. Horbelt, DDS, professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health, was elected to serve as president of the American Board of Special Care Dentistry for the 2009-2010 term. The American Board of Special Care Dentistry is an international organization, which grants the credential of Diplomate in Special Care Dentistry. The purpose of this credential is to recognize outstanding individuals in the field of providing dental care to persons with special needs.

Dr. Horbelt is also one of two delegates from the United States to the World Council of the International Association for Disability and Oral Heath.

Dr. Horbelt has been providing dental care to persons with developmental disabilities full time for the past 23 years.

Tim Mashburn, MBA, associate dean of Finance and Administration and vice president of Adult Multi-specialty for UT Medical Group, is more than dedicated to his career. He has donated his time and stem cells to science by becoming a volunteer donor for the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) and the UT Blood and Marrow Transplant Center. He will undergo a stem cell collection procedure (Apheresis) and could possibly meet the recipient of the stem cell transplant after one year.

The UT Blood and Marrow Transplant Center, which was recently reaccredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) and is a transplant center and apheresis for NMDP.

Duane D. Miller, PhD, Van Vleet professor, department chair and associate dean in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences was recently inducted into the American Chemical Society’s Medicinal Chemistry Hall of Fame.

Miller is an executive with GTx. He co-discovered and first described in medical literature a new class of drugs, selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs), which have the potential to treat muscle wasting and other musculoskeletal conditions.

Ann Nolen, PsyD, associate professor in the Occupational Therapy Department, College of Allied Health Sciences, has been selected as a member of the American Occupational Therapy Roster of Fellows. She will be honored at the 2009 annual conference in Houston, Texas in April. American Occupational Therapy Fellows are recognized for their knowledge, expertise and significant contributions to the occupational therapy profession. Ann is being recognized for her contribution to Organizational Leadership in Education-Community Partnerships.

Stephanie Phelps, PharmD, was recently appointed to the position of associate dean for Academic Affairs. This appointment became effective January 1. Dr. Phelps has been in the College of Pharmacy for more than 25 years. University faculty is looking forward to working with Dr. Phelps in her new role. She will work in close collaboration with all the academic deans at UTHSC as they collectively move the college forward. In addition to acting as associate dean, Dr. Phelps will retain some of her current college and university responsibilities.

Mayola Rowser, PhD, DNP, successfully defended her dissertation, “Predictors of Depressive Symptoms and Obesity in African-American Women,” at UTHSC. She is the first known nurse to earn a Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) and a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) in the United States.

Dr. Rowser was elected to the Board of Mental Health Association of Vanderburgh County, Ind. This county board is an affiliate of the state and national Mental Health Associations and serves three counties in southern Indiana.

In her role as board member, Dr. Rowser’s work is an example of the responsibilities and expectations that the fellowship encourages and embraces. Being an advocate for the mentally ill is a privilege that requires dedication and experience. Dr. Rowser demonstrates both of these key elements.
Congratulations to the following UTHSC team members who have recently received grants totaling more than $5,000.

**Suleiman Bahouth, PhD**  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
$367,500  
“PKA-Targeting: A Novel Mechanism for GPCR Resensitization”

**Charles Handorf, MD, PhD**  
National Center for Research Resource  
$457,024  
“Whole Slide Imaging System for Tissue Service Core”

**Wendy Likes, DNsc, APRN-Bc**  
University of Indiana  
$14,593  
“A Pilot Project to Examine the Efficacy of Vaginal Dilatation for the Maintenance or Improvement of Vaginal Patency and Sexual Function Among Cervical Cancer Patients Treated with Radiation”

**Anjaparavanda Naren, PhD**  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease  
$330,309  
“Inhibition of an Apical CAMP Transporter (MRP4) in the Gut Induces Diarrhea”

**Lawrence Pheffer, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute  
$516,029  
“Strategies to Improve the Antiglioma Action of IFN-?: A Role for NF-kB Inhibition”

**Owen Phillips, MD**  
The Arnold P. Gold Foundation  
$6,500  
“Student Clinician’s Ceremony”

**Mitchell Watsky, PhD**  
National Eye Institute  
$221,250  
“Vitamin D in the Cornea and Anterior Segment of the Eye”

**Hamre National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders**  
$184,271  
“Analysis of Surviving Math 1-null hair cells in the inner ear of Chimeric Mice”

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**Mayor for a Day**

On January 8, a group of 54 Advanced Placement Biology students from Arlington High School visited eight laboratories in the Molecular Sciences Department at UTHSC. Led by their instructor, Meera Krisnan, PhD, and UTHSC graduate, the students learned new techniques in molecular biology and hands-on lab training from faculty and graduate students.

Dr. Krishnan was recently honored as West Tennessee’s Grand Division winner at the Teacher of the Year awards banquet in Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Krishnan was presented with a $3,000 check for this state honor, in addition to the $1,000 prize she received for being named one of nine state finalists for the Teacher of the Year award. Dr. Krishnan has eight years teaching experience. She chairs the Science department at Arlington High School and is a mentor for new biology teachers.

On February 9, Diane Pace, PhD, assistant dean of Faculty Practice in the College of Nursing experienced a day of county mayoral duties. Dr. Pace took advantage of serving as Mayor for a Day, a duty she received from bidding on a certificate at an annual silent auction benefiting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Shelby County Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. donated the certificate to the agency, which allowed the highest bidder to fill his shoes for one day. Throughout the day, Dr. Pace listened in on health-related calls, an area where she was able to lend her expertise, and she attended a City Council meeting.

“She was a great shadow. As it turned out, my day was consumed mostly by matters that were health-related. Dr. Pace fit right in and shared her insights. In the end, I know I learned from her and I hope she learned from me,” said Mayor Wharton.

Dr. Pace was honored to fill this position, if even for one day. “If you have the opportunity, please do so. Mayor Wharton was the most gracious host and so very open. It was a wonderful experience,” she said.

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**View UTHSC News Notes**

Catch up on UTHSC media coverage by visiting http://www.utmem.edu/news/news-notes/. News Notes is a periodic e-mail that shares good news coverage of the Health Science Center. These e-mail updates provide a brief summary of media exposure that faculty, staff and students have received, as well as provide links (when available) for more information.

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**View past issues of The RECORD at**  
[www.utmem.edu/record](http://www.utmem.edu/record)
OED Promotes Black History Month

UTHSC celebrated Black History Month by offering several events. The Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) prepared a month of exciting activities that started on February 2nd with the LeMoyne-Owen Gospel Choir.

Several speakers were featured throughout the month who provided the campus with insightful information. Monice Moore Hagler of the UT Board of Trustees and partner with Fearinly, Callif, Martin, McDonald, Tate and Kimbrow in Memphis addressed attendees regarding her educational journey, events that enabled her success and what it means to be on the UT Board of Trustees. Kathleen Figaro, MD, MS, and assistant professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, addressed “Health Care Advocacy,” and explained new advances in today’s health care. Christopher A. Key, business-planning advisor at FedEx Customer Information Services spoke about “Innovative Leadership” and why great leadership is so important in today’s society.

The celebration ended with a night at the Art Village Gallery, where guests tasted a host of appetizers and drinks while viewing art dedicated to Black History Month. Financial Consultant, Floyd Tyler, CFSA addressed attendees about finances and advance financial preparation during economic downturns.

The Black Student Association, the Minority Student Association of Allied Health Students, the Student National Medical Association, the Health Careers Programs, and the Office of Equity and Diversity sponsored the 2009 Black History Month events.

Alum Relates Science to History in New Book

A scientist’s interests often stretches far beyond medical research. That is such for UT alum Larry Smith, MD, who uses his research skills to show how the scientific and social objectives of science accelerated the onset of WWII in his new book, Darwin’s War.

The time line of the story unfolds in the Great Depression, when eugenics and economics played a vital role in history. Eugenics is a social-scientific philosophy, that advocates the improvement of human hereditary traits through various forms of intervention and conflict.

As the son of an Air Force officer and World War II veteran, Dr. Smith learned of war stories of the 416th bomb group from his late father. This group sets the stage for the four-year project.

After his father’s death in 1996, he researched many of the accounts and stumbled across a reunion bomb group of his father’s peers. By attending reunions of the 416th bomb group, Dr. Smith met the many airmen who, along with his father, endured the conflict of eugenics. Now he has transformed their first-person accounts into a document that reflects his training as a physician.

Through the eyes of the 416th Bomb Group, Dr. Smith tells the story of men who become warriors forced to put their lives in danger and wage war against other countries, as well as other religions and beliefs. Writing to honor the men who fought and died to defeat eugenics, Dr. Smith hopes Darwin’s War will bring to light the true cost of scientific influence.

Smith earned his MD from UTHSC in 1985. A member of several professional medical societies including the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Smith practiced otolaryngology for nearly twenty years. He is currently drafting a story about the history of health care and the role medicine has played in the revolution and constitution as well as America’s responsibility to the uninsured. Smith resides in Gainesville, Fla. with his wife and children.

OED 2009 Course Catalog

The Office of Equity and Diversity developed a new course catalog to enhance the area of employee training and development. It includes information on several new classes as well as existing course offerings. The catalog also includes class schedules for employee relations concerns, harassment, diversity and discrimination, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

OED serves Health Science Center employees in the areas of affirmative action, equal employment opportunity and compliance, employee relations, student conduct administration, and training and development.

Forums will be held to discuss common performance, conduct problems and other topics that are addressed in policy. All classes are available on the HR 128 portal. Please visit the online catalog at http://www.utmem.edu/oed/.

OED is committed to promoting inclusion, respect and the inherent value of all students, faculty and staff within the University of Tennessee Health Science Center community. As a comprehensive Health Science Center, diversity on our campus promotes a positive learning environment as well as having a positive impact on attitudes of the university community.
March Marks EAP Awareness Month

T
he month of March is designated as UTHSC Employee Assistance Program Awareness Month. “Taking Charge of Your Life in 2009” is the theme and it is focused on mapping personal goals by addressing such areas as career, finances, health and stress reduction.

Hosted by the Office of Equity and Diversity, EAP Awareness Month begins with an exhibit and short sessions on promoting healthy eating habits. Throughout the month there are various EAP workshops focusing on issues from professional growth to stress management. A health fair is held in the Plaza Lobby, where participants can pick up pamphlets about regulating blood pressure and cholesterol.

EAP Awareness Month concludes with a stress relieving activity, which educates participants about stress reduction techniques that can be utilized in the office or in the home.

For more information about EAP, please contact Felecia Shaw at (901) 448-2112 or visit http://www.utmem.edu/oed/events.php.

MARCH - APRIL 2009

Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award

The Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award at the Health Science Center will be presented each year to recognize non-faculty exempt employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or who have made significant contributions to the university community beyond what is normally expected for their positions.

The award is open to all non-faculty exempt staff at UT Health Science Center who have served a minimum of three years prior to nomination and have not previously received the award. A person may be nominated multiple years providing he/she has not received an award.

The Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award nominations should be submitted to the Office of Equity and Diversity not later than May 15 of each year. Each nomination must be supported and signed by three (3) nominators. Nominations may come from alumni, faculty, staff, students and other members of the University community. The nominee’s manager must be included as either a nominator or a signatory on a letter of support.

The nomination is limited to the completion of the nomination form and three letters of support. However, the letters of support may be endorsed by numerous persons. The nomination submission, excluding letters of support, must be no more than 750 words in length.

It is the objective of the Selection Committee to review the nominations in accordance with the criteria for nomination. The goal of the Selection Committee is to identify the strongest nomination(s). The committee will seek consensus on the nominations that best reflect the spirit of the award.

A contact person for every nomination is required. It is the responsibility of the contact person to coordinate the nomination, elicit other nominators and arrange for letters of support.

Individuals who agree to support a nomination by identifying themselves as a nominator must actively participate in the nomination process by contributing to and in turn, agreeing to the material included in the nomination package. Nominators may be contacted by the Selection Committee during its deliberations and should, therefore, include their title, current work address and telephone number.

For more information, contact Tiffany at (901) 448-2112.

Tour Italy’s Healthy Cities

T
he Fourth Annual “Search for the Healthy City” will be held October 15 through October 25 with an opening reception and dinner in Rome. This residential seminar will examine classics of medical history and health services research as well as offer excursions to healing and cultural sites in Rome, Salerno, Paestum, Pompeii, Napoli and along the Amalfi Coast.

This search will offer an opportunity to tour ancient and modern hospitals, discover active civic organizations that have promoted public health since the Middle Ages and visit the site of Europe’s oldest medical school in Salerno, the Scuola Medica Salernitana. Travelers will learn from the successes and failures of the past to create healthier cities in our own communities.

The tour provides a historical conceptual view of health promotions and sustainability. In 2007, Ed Morrison, MD, professor of Medicine at UTHSC participated in the Tuscany tour. “The conjunction of medical history with present day problems is very effective. The seminar is inspiring and extremely well thought out. The environment was relaxing and contemplative. Our tour hosts were most professional and went out of their way to assure our comfort,” he said.

Birthplace of the Renaissance with a rich heritage in the arts, Tuscany played a particularly fascinating role in medical history as well. “The oldest and most important medical schools were in Italy. Up through the 18th and 19th centuries, even the English went there to study,” explained Professor James E. Bailey, Jr., MD, MPH. He organized a group of UT Health Science Center alumni and planned the curriculum for the study tour.

The Lloyd’s Baia Hotel along the Amalfi Coast

The main seminar location will be in Vietri sul Mare at Lloyd’s Baia Hotel (www.lloydbsbaila-hotel.it/) on the Amalfi Coast very near to where the famous Scuola Medica Salernitana of the middle ages was located. Attendees will also be able to enjoy the extraordinary cuisine of the Campania region of south central Italy and optional cooking classes will be offered onsite.

The late Chester Burns, MD and professor of Medical History at the University of Texas Medical Branch, participated in the tour in 2006. “Good food, warm hospitality, spiritual and mental challenges, beautiful scenery – a stimulating fusion of past and present,” he said.

Detailed course information and a brochure will be available soon. For more information, contact Dr. Bailey at jeb@utmem.edu, or Catherine Lewis at clewis22@utmem.edu or call (901) 448-2561.

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STUDENTS

Occupational Therapy Students Bond With Kids

A semester of teaching independent-living skills to children in the Youth Villages residential program turned into a fun-filled learning experience for both Youth Villages children and University of Tennessee graduate students.

Its name – occupational therapy – reveals none of the fun, laughter and inspiration this innovative therapy has brought to the emotionally and behaviorally troubled children at Youth Villages.

During the 2008 fall semester, four graduate students from UTHSC brought occupational therapy – teaching and practice of independent living skills – to groups of children at the Youth Villages Bartlett Campus and the Center for Intensive Residential Treatment.

“Our kids did not realize they were learning, which is actually the best way for them to learn,” says Anne Coggin, director of education at Youth Villages.

UTHSC students Virginia Roberts and Minda Papson, along with Jason Walden and Julie Beal, devised a variety of life skills activities for a group of Youth Villages teenage boys at the Bartlett Campus, teaching anger management, teamwork and problem-solving skills. Activities they designed included a photo scavenger hunt that required group coordination, helping the kids plan a community outing, following recipes to bake cookies, making baby blankets.

“It’s not only fun, but the kids put into practice what they have been learning,” Roberts says. “They were really proud of the outing they organized.”

Experiences like these empower Youth Villages children, according to Coggin, who would like to provide occupational therapy to all Youth Villages children.

Occupational therapists like Roberts also make it their mission to find unique ways to improve the lives of individual children. For Joshua, 16, who would not participate in group and classroom activities, Roberts brought a journal and rented an autobiography about a tough childhood. Then, she taught Joshua how to write his own story using his new journal.

“Experiences like these empower Youth Villages children, according to Coggin, who would like to provide occupational therapy to all Youth Villages children.”

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

An Exciting Transition to Nursing

Nathan Border, a UTHSC nursing student, is one of many students completing his education in the final class of the BSN program. Nathan currently holds a bachelor’s degree in Advanced Marketing and a minor in Philosophy, which he earned from Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind., his home town.

After, completing his degree, he struggled with the decision of pursuing the right career goal for his life. While contemplating several options, nursing became a great interest to him. Nursing provides an honorable career, flexible work schedule and better financial opportunity nationwide. When his interest in nursing consumed his thoughts, he soon applied for the nursing program at UTHSC, after extensive online research of highly ranked programs in the United States.

Following his application, he was soon accepted into the program. Once Nathan finished all prerequisites, he would soon begin his journey to become the nursing professional he dreamed about.

He recently received the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship, for students pursuing accelerated nursing degree programs. The transition of becoming a nurse is exciting for Nathan. He soon adapted to the fast-paced environment and the requirement of becoming one-dimensional and grounded in his study habits. He also learned that clinical rotations are the most profound aspect of nursing. He enjoys the one-on-one experience in clinical rotations. He works diligently in the new Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) at Methodist University Hospital.

Border has also discovered the differences in southern culture. Although he spends most of his time in the classroom, he is able to see what the South has to offer. So far he has enjoyed his experience at UTHSC.

The unique benefit of the UTHSC College of Nursing is that it favors students in search of a career change and it helps them make the transition process less difficult. Although the BSN program is no longer an option for incoming students, Nathan speaks highly of the new Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program, which is geared toward individuals seeking a career change but already hold a bachelor’s degree in any subject from an accredited college or university. The program allows these non-traditional students to earn a master’s degree in nursing (MSN).

Nathan will graduate soon and plans to become a travel nurse, living and working abroad.
Diane Wyatt, assistant dean and associate professor, UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences.

At a surprise unveiling in late January, Le Bonheur staff members were overjoyed to have

Germantown to purchase a completely new Wii system that included games and control

of the patients and staff at Le Bonheur. She, along with her physical therapy classmates,
carried out this unfortunate incident having a long-term effect on the minds and hearts

children,” she proclaimed.

McIvor, who last year organized a volunteer effort for a Habitat for Humanity project, de-
cided not to let this unfortunate incident have a long-term effect on the minds and hearts

of the patients and staff at Le Bonheur. She, along with her physical therapy classmates,
collected nearly $400 from their donations and received a $50 donation from Target in

Germantown to purchase a completely new Wii system that included games and control-

lers.

At a surprise unveiling in late January, Le Bonheur staff members were overjoyed to have

it replaced. “We were overwhelmed by their generosity,” noted Carlyline Adkins, MPA, PT,
director of Rehabilitation at Le Bonheur.

Diane Wyatt, assistant dean and associate professor, UTHSC College of Allied Health Sci-
cences, echoed that sentiment. “We continue to take pride in the creativity and dedication

consistently demonstrated by our students in their community service efforts.”

The Nintendo Wii, donated to Le Bonheur by UTHSC physical therapy classes, is used as an aid in

physical and developmental rehabilitation sessions.

“People can benefici

The 12-credit-hour, non-degree pro-

gram aims to enhance the educa-
tion and skills of clinical researchers by

offering online, introductory graduate
courses in epidemiology, biostatistics,
clinical research design, ethics and

other disciplines related to clinical

research.

The Certificate in Clinical Research

Program is designed to improve the

evaluation and skills of clinical

researchers by offering online, intro-
ductive masters courses in epide-

miology, biostatistics, clinical

research design, ethics and

other disciplines related to clinical

research.

Students in the program will customar-
ily take the first two courses in the fall,

then the next two courses in the spring.

They will be awarded a certificate at the

end of the spring semester.

For more information, please visit

http://www.utmem.edu/prevmrd/pm/
k30certificateprogram.html.

COP Offers CPR Class/Health Fair

On February 21, UTHSC College of

Pharmacy successfully provided a

free CPR Training Event and Health and

Wellness Fair to the Memphis commu-
nity.

The Academy of Student Pharmacists

(ASP) along with faculty and pharmacist

volunteers trained about 85 individu-

als in the life-saving skills of CPR and

screened more than 150 individuals

for illness related to heart disease and

women’s health. The project coincided

with the American Heart Association’s

“Go Red for Women” campaign and

targeted an audience interested in

heart disease. The event was held at

Independent Presbyterian Church.

Two ASP Committees, Project Heart

and CPR, planned the event, which

included CPR classes, blood pressure

screenings, diabetes testing, bone
density testing, disease prevention

information and door prizes. Project

Heart’s student leaders include sec-

ond-year pharmacy students Whitney

Lane, Johanna Norman and Jonathan

Bain. The CPR student leaders included

second-year pharmacy students Jada

Butler and Ryan Wooden. ASP executive

committee members Alex Stephens and

Sampy Wright facilitated the 100 phar-

macy students who volunteered for the
day. UTHSC College of Pharmacy faculty

advisors for these groups are Shannon

W. Finks, PharmD, and Kelly C. Rogers,

PharmD.

UTHSC would like to thank the follow-

ing for helping to offer the free public

event: The American Heart Association;

Independent Presbyterian Church; Ellen

Turner, RN, BSN, Health Education Con-
cepts; and Kent Stoneking, PharmD, of

Kroger Pharmacies.

Physical Therapy Class Heals Wound

often, evil acts bring about an outpour-
ing of generosity that restores our faith

in humanity. The Le Bonheur Children’s

Medical Center Rehabilitation Department

recently experienced such a feeling thanks
to the UTHSC physical therapy classes of

2010 and 2011.

Late last year, a Nintendo Wii, a popular

home video game console featuring a hand-

held wireless controller that detects move-

ment, was stolen from the department. Although the Wii system

is known for entertainment, it also served a dual purpose for Le Bonheur by aiding in

physical and developmental rehabilitation sessions. Due to its interactive movement-

based playability, the Wii is used as a tool to help children regain their health.

“The Wii makes it fun and easy to work on

physical therapy classes, is used as an aid in

physical and developmental rehabilitation sessions.

at the health fair.

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Kroger Pharmacies.

The Health Science Center is now

offering a Master of Science in

Pharmacology from the Department of

Pharmacology and a Certificate in

Clinical Research from the Department

of Preventive Medicine.

Successful participants, whose

ultimate aim may be the pursuit of a

career in the medical, medico-legal or

pharmaceutical management/research

fields, gain a significant and highly

relevant qualification. The Master of

Science in Pharmacology is an inten-
sive 11-month, 34-credit-hour, post-

baccalaureate program that provides a

comprehensive education in the field of

pharmacology.

A variety of instruction techniques

are involved, including lectures, podcasts,

group-based discussion and problem-

based learning. Testing is based upon

multiple choice and short essay-based

questions.

The Certificate in Clinical Research

Program aims to enhance the educa-
tion and skills of clinical researchers by

offering online, introductory graduate
courses in epidemiology, biostatistics,
clinical research design, ethics and

other disciplines related to clinical

research.

The 12-credit-hour, non-degree pro-

gram, leading to an awarded certificate,
is designed for junior faculty, fellows

and other health care professionals

who are not in a degree program and

who seek initial training in the methods

and skills to conduct clinical research

but whose schedules may not accom-

modate traditional, classroom-based

courses.

Students in the program will customar-
ily take the first two courses in the fall,

then the next two courses in the spring.

They will be awarded a certificate at the

end of the spring semester.

For more information, please visit

http://www.utmem.edu/prevmrd/pm/
k30certificateprogram.html.
From left to right: On Jan 15, UT Trustee John Foy of Chattanooga; David Millhorn, MD, University of Tennessee executive vice president; Steve Schwab, MD, executive dean in the College of Medicine at UTHSC; David Seaberg, MD, professor and dean of the University of Tennessee, College of Medicine, Chattanooga, toured the Erlanger campus and College of Medicine skills and simulation labs.

**2008 Alpha Omega Alpha St. Jude/UTHSC Lectureship**

Featured speaker Michael A. Dyer, PhD (left), associate member in the Department of Developmental Neurobiology at St. Jude and UTHSC associate professor in Ophthalmology was honored for his outstanding accomplishments. Owen Phillips, MD (right), associate dean of Student Affairs, UTHSC College of Medicine, presented the award at the 2008 UTHSC Alpha Omega Alpha/St. Jude Research Lectureship on November 7. Dr. Dyer discussed his cutting-edge research in cancer genetics. The topic of his address is “Retinoblastoma: Bridging Developmental Neurobiology and Cancer Genetics.” This year’s lectureship will be held on November 13. Student poster sessions will be featured.

**DEU Unveiling**

On January 6, Dolores Marshall, Methodist University Hospital chief nursing officer (left), and Donna Hathaway, PhD, dean, UTHSC College of Nursing, unveiled the new Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) located on the Ninth floor of the Methodist University Hospital to attendees at the midday reception. The DEU allows clinical teachers to provide personalized instructional nursing education to students.

UTHSC College of Nursing students celebrate the opening of the DEU at a midday reception with Methodist University Hospital officials and UTHSC instructors. Working in partnership with the UT College of Nursing, the hospital established the new model of clinical nurse education through the collaboration of nurses, faculty and management.