**BlueCross BlueShield Donates $500,000**

On October 29, the BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation donated $500,000 to the College of Dentistry. The grant will be used to enhance the college’s dental clinic, which provides more than 40,800 patient visits annually at about half the cost of private dentistry.

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee (BCBST), a more than 60-year-old health insurance provider that serves some 2 million Tennesseans, established its health foundation in 2003 to award grants for initiatives that improve health for the state’s citizens. The $500,000 grant comes to the College of Dentistry at a time when the school is in dire need of building repairs and is in the midst of a $15 million capital campaign. The funds will be used to support the retention of experienced dental faculty as well as recruitment of dental students. The grant will also be applied to the Dunn Dental Building’s fourth floor dental clinic to replace worn dental chairs that are more than 30 years old and purchase technologically advanced dental equipment.

“We welcome the opportunity to support the UT College of Dentistry,” said Vicky Gregg, president and CEO for BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee. “Our research indicates that proper dental care is vital to overall good health. Through this grant, we are helping to enhance the supply of dentists and improve access to dental services.”

**UTHSC** has been awarded a $1.3 million grant to study health disparities in Memphis and Shelby County by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NIH describes health disparities as differences in the burden of diseases, morbidity, mortality rates and other adverse health outcomes.

UTHSC will examine health disparities in connection to race and other social determinants of health. The studies will be conducted through the Consortium for Health Education, Economic Empowerment and Research (CHEER), a UTHSC-led collaborative initiative conducting exploratory health disparities research. CHEER partners include UTHSC, the Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, the Memphis Housing Authority, LeMoyne-Owen College and First Baptist Church Lauderdale with its independent affiliate, Mustard Seed, Inc., a non-profit organization seeking to improve the livelihood of citizens. The collaborators are essential for encouraging healthier lifestyles among citizens of all racial and ethnic backgrounds in the Mid-South area.

**Investigators Earn $1.3 Million Grant for Health Disparities Research**

Dr. Shelley White-Means

*See Disparities, pg. 4*
DEU Model Opens at Le Bonheur

The College of Nursing expanded its Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) by opening two additional units at Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center. On November 16, clinical teachers (CTs) and students gathered to unveil two units, which will be the source of clinical study for the new leadership course this fall.

The unit models the first DEU at Methodist University Hospital (MUH). At the DEU, experienced nurses serve as CTs who lead by example, providing UTHSC students with a richer, more intensive, real-world clinical experience.

The hospital established the new model of clinical nursing education through the collaboration of nurses, faculty and management. As in the MUH DEU, six clinical teachers, who are staff nurses on the patient unit, will train 12 students in the nursing practice of children during an average 10-week rotation. This two-to-one ratio will provide the personalized instruction needed to create an optimal learning environment for the students, and a College of Nursing faculty member will work closely with the clinical teachers to mentor, coach, and support them in this new role.

“Our DEU was developed with our Methodist practice partners to provide exemplary educational opportunities for students who will quickly become strong clinicians ready to assume the critical responsibilities of registered nurses immediately upon graduation,” said Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, dean of the UT College of Nursing. Dean Hathaway learned about DEUs from Terry Misner, PhD, who was dean at the University of Portland. Dr. Misner had imported the idea of DEUs from Australia, implementing the first one in the United States.

For more information about the DEU, contact Sherry Webb, UTHSC College of Nursing assistant professor of acute and chronic care, at (901) 448-4148 or Dolores Marshall, Methodist University Hospital chief nursing officer, at (901) 516-8275.

March CME Conference

The cost, morbidity and mortality from diabetes are severe, but the numerous complications and associated risk factors account for the overwhelming burden of the disease.

The upcoming CME conference, Sixth Annual Diabetes Regional Conference: Evidence-Based Interventions to Stem the Burden of Diabetes Complications, is set for Saturday, March 13 at the UT Conference Center, Knoxville. The conference will decipher the latest medical research into practical, clinical approaches for reducing, preventing and treating some of the major complications of diabetes.

Regional experts in the specialties of cardiovascular medicine, nutrition, ophthalmology, renal disease, vascular disease and psychology will lead discussions, and participants will learn how to optimize drug therapy and prevent adverse drug interactions in diabetic patients. The conference offers up to 6.0 CME credits through AMA, AAFP, AAPA and ACPE, and CEUs are available as well. Registration and information for this CME event are available at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Diabetes2010.

MCS Prep Academy Holds Graduation at UTHSC

On December 18, 75 youths graduated from the Memphis City Schools Prep Academy during a ceremony at UT Health Science Center in the Schreir Auditorium. Dr. Kriner Cash, superintendent of Memphis City Schools (MCS), was the guest speaker.

The students were joined by more than 400 attendees, including Martavius Jones, president of the MCS Board of Commissioners, Dr. Irving Hamer, Jr., MCS deputy superintendent, Dr. Roderick Richmond, MCS chief of school operations, Joris Ray, MCS director of innovative schools, plus friends and supporters of the graduating students.

There are four MCS Prep Academy schools located throughout the city aimed at educating students (at least 14 years old) who are one or two years overage for their grade, or need additional support to achieve their academic potential. The students reach graduation in 22 months or less.

This was the academy’s inaugural graduation, as well as the first time for an MCS graduation to be held on the UT Health Science Center campus. It is hoped that the students were inspired by the academic health institution to further their education and pursue the careers of their choice, including those related to the health professions.
The recent relocation of G-Lot subscribers to the old Baptist parking lot, located at the corner of Union Avenue and East Street, has not been without challenges. First, staff members in the parking office apologize for any inconvenience this move has caused the campus community. We are continuing to work toward resolving some of the issues, which we encountered during the relocation.

There will continue to be four vans stationed on the old Baptist lot, at the entrance of the lot immediately east of Tasty Sub. These vans will be available beginning at 7 a.m. to escort subscribers to their workstations. The vans can be identified by the UTHSC logo on the doors of each vehicle. There will be three white vans and one blue van available for transport.

After the initial morning transports, the vans will stand-by at four assigned locations until requests are made for transportation. These locations include:

- Old Baptist Lot
- Entrance drive to the E-Lot Garage area (869 Madison)
- 66 North Pauline Garage Drive
- Delivery area of Molecular Sciences Building (858 Madison)

These vans are available Monday through Friday at these locations to transport faculty, staff and students to and from their vehicles during the day. They transport displaced G-Lot subscribers only; they will not be used as a Medical Center Shuttle Service.

In an ongoing effort to address concerns of the UTHSC campus community regarding various parking issues, please be advised of the following:

* Faculty, staff and students who currently subscribe to UTHSC Parking Services may park on all open lots after normal business hours and on weekends, with a valid hangtag.
* Students with valid UTHSC parking subscriptions will continue their current levels of parking in E-Lot Garage: Nothing has changed.
* There were some concerns regarding the continued use of ID Cards, once the new pay stations have been implemented in the H-Lot Garage (Plaza Garage). Faculty, staff and students with valid parking will continue to swipe in and out with their UTHSC ID cards. This will not change.
* Occupants in the 910, 920 and 930 Madison buildings currently utilizing validation stamps may forward a request for new discount coupons to maskew@uthsc.edu.

For more information, please contact Campus Police and Parking Services at (901) 448-5546.

---

**UTHSC Remembers Dr. Shukla**

Dr. Atul Shukla, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, lost his long and courageous battle with lung cancer on Wednesday afternoon, October 28. He had suffered through chemo and radiation therapy several times over the past six years, and he was finally able to be put on the lung transplant list. When he became critical on October 1, he was rushed to Cleveland Clinic in Ohio, where he was upgraded to the top of the transplant list. He received a double-lung transplant on October 8, and remained in critical condition until his death. He succumbed to a virus which had spread throughout his body while he was on a machine that kept his blood circulating, since his heart was not functioning properly after the transplant.

There are so many words to describe what a wonderful, caring, loving, selfless person Dr. Shukla was. He loved his family and friends, and he loved his UT family of colleagues and students. His passion was teaching and working with his graduate students, and he continued to work at UT until he was simply too weak to do so. He was always there, whatever the need was for anyone at any time. He fought his battle with cancer with grace and dignity, and he so wanted to “beat it”, so he could continue doing all the things he loved about life.

---

**Update Telephone Listing**

As you know the UTHSC Campus Directory is going green and paper copies of the telephone directory will no longer be printed. However, the organizational sections of the directory will still be updated and posted online annually. The Communications and Marketing Department is working with business managers to update these sections.

Individual listings will be available through the online People Search, which has recently been upgraded to assist a searcher who may not know the proper spelling of a name. However, faculty and staff members are responsible for making sure their individual information is accurate.

To verify your listing and make changes, go to the UT Directory Check at http://www.uthsc.edu/phonebook/.

Direct questions about this process to Rebecca Ennis at (901) 448-1768 or rennis1@uthsc.edu.
BCBS cont. from page 1

dental services to the citizens of Tennes­see, and to ensure that they continue to receive high quality oral care."

In 2007, BCBST examined the prevalence of chronic health diseases and higher health costs among individuals who do not receive proper dental care. The study compared plan members in three categories: 1. members with evidence of preventive dental care, 2. members with no dental services, and 3. members with evidence of periodontal (gum) treatment. Study results confirmed increased instances of chronic health conditions such as diabetes, congestive heart failure, and hypertension among those without dental care, as well as higher health costs. Study data can be viewed at http://www.bcbst.com/about/news/reports-issues/blue-reports/2007/Healthy%20Mouth,%20Healthy%20Body%20(FV).pdf.

“…We are grateful for this generous grant and will immediately put these funds to good use.” said Timothy Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA, dean of the UT College of Dentistry. “Improving the physical condition of the dental clinic and outfitting it with state-of-the-art equipment are our top priorities. These funds will play a significant part in helping to sustain our college’s tradition of grooming qualified, compassionate professionals.”

He added, “Our dental students’ performance on the National Board Dental Examina­tion remains solid and should be touted. That’s why upgrading our clinic facilities is so important. We know that enhancing our students’ clinical experience will translate into more and better dentists for our region and increased access to advanced oral care.”

Disparities cont. from page 1

“In our city and state, minorities perform far worse than others when diagnosed with diabetes, heart disease, stroke, obesity, HIV/AIDS and other health issues,” said Shelley White-Means, PhD, health economics professor at UTHSC and founder of CHEER. With more than 25 years of research emphasis on health disparities among minorities, women, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations, Dr. White-Means has renewed optimism about improving these conditions, not only because of the grant, but also due to recent deliberations on health disparities within the health care reform debate.

CHEER has a four-tier mission of conducting demographic research on health outcomes; designing interventions for reducing or eliminating disparities; developing opportunities for health care providers and community leaders to collaborate, and assisting health care and community leaders in distributing information on health disparities and related interventions. To examine health conditions in particular populations, CHEER will perform analyses in assigned zip codes and produce geographic information systems maps illustrating the health and demographic data.

Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief of staff stated, “The NCMDH grant will increase the CHEER research component, moving it closer to becoming a comprehensive center of excellence on health disparities, engaging in extensive research, collaborations, training and administration. Our research infrastructure will assist CHEER through numerous studies in progress related to minority health – cancer, diabetes, hypertension, obesity and HIV/AIDS are only a few of the projects.”

Initially, the NCMDH grant will be used to study health disparities in the 38126 zip code. The area has a population of 8,104 citizens in which 98 percent are African-American and the area ranks among the highest in Memphis and Shelby County in hospitalization rates for chronic disease, sexually transmitted diseases and crime. This zip code also has the lowest median income and education levels of any part of the city – 60 percent are below poverty level, 45 percent hold a high school diploma or some college and only 4.5 percent hold a bachelor’s degree or higher.

CHEER will use written surveys to collect data from the 38126 citizenry. Factors impacting health will be analyzed such as environmental exposure, genetics, health care access and behavioral lifestyles that reflect eating and cooking habits, sleep practices, exercise patterns and racial polarization. Also, social circumstances will be examined in regard to employment conditions, housing environments, health care infrastructure, educational levels and experiences with racism. First Baptist Church Lauderdale, a CHEER partner, is one of more than 20 churches in the 38126 zip code and will be instrumental in leading the ministerial effort to gather information.

In 2010, CHEER will conduct a community health summit to educate the community on specific health disparities and identify methods for intervention. For further details about CHEER, visit www.uthsc.edu/CHEER. CHEER will begin producing a quarterly newsletter, the CHEERLEADER, which will be accessible on the CHEER Web site during the second quarter of 2010.

Death Investigation Conference Brings Professionals Together

T he cost, morbidity and mortality from diabetes are severe, but the numerous complications and associated risk factors account for the overwhelming burden of the disease.

The upcoming CME conference, Sixth Annual Diabetes Regional Conference: Evidence-Based Interventions to Stem the Burden of Diabetes Complications, is set for Saturday, March 13 at the UT Conference Center, Knoxville. The conference will decipher the latest medical research into practical, clinical approaches for reducing, preventing and treating some of the major complications of diabetes.

Regional experts in the specialties of cardiovascular medicine, nutrition, ophthalmology, renal disease, vascular disease and psychology will lead discussions, and participants will learn how to optimize drug therapy and prevent adverse drug interactions in diabetic patients. Benefitting most from this conference will be physicians practicing in family medicine and internal medicine as well as pharmacists and other healthcare professionals involved in the prevention and treatment of diabetes.

The conference offers up to 6.0 CME credits through AMA, AAPF, AAPA and ACPE, and CEUs are available as well. This is the only diabetes conference of its kind in the region. Registration and information for this CME event are available at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Diabetes2010. The Sixth Annual Diabetes Regional Conference is a CME-certified activity planned and managed by the UT Graduate School of Medicine.

Students from Tunica Visit UTHSC

O n November 4, a group of 20 students from Rosa Fort High School in Tunica, Miss., visited the Pathology Department at UTHSC. Accompanied by four teachers, the students learned valuable information about the field of pathology, the basics of forensic pathology and viewed a display on plastinated brain specimens. The specimens emphasized on the harmful effects of drug use.

The event was organized by Elise Moore, health careers program coordinator and Linda White, histology technologist.
Crisis Center Relocates to UTHSC

The Crisis Center, a 24-hour telephone hotline for those in distress, relocated to the UTHSC campus this fall. UTHSC provides space to the non-profit organization at no charge. The exact location of the center is confidential. Participating in the ceremony were UTHSC Interim Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD; Allen O. Battle, PhD, UTHSC professor of Psychiatry and a co-founder of the Crisis Center; Mike LaBonte, executive director for the center; Joe Ford, recently appointed Interim Shelby County Mayor; and UTHSC Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown. Roughly 150 volunteers staff the Crisis Center hotline, which was founded in 1970. Each year, they handle around 20,000 calls, responding to such issues as mental illness, addiction, domestic violence, sexual assault, grief, and suicide.

Dr. Farmer, a UTHSC alumnus, is a psychiatrist who specializes in treatment for anxiety, major depression and opioid addiction. Dr. Battle has taught and practiced psychology at UTHSC for more than 53 years. In September, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award as a Health Care Hero for his decades-long impact in education and crisis intervention.

At the Crisis Center, trained volunteers, using a combination of empathic listening, risk assessment, and crisis intervention, provide callers with immediate assistance and link them with the long-term resources they need to cope and overcome. The program is free, safe, and confidential.

Roughly 150 Crisis Center volunteers staff its hotline and receive around 20,000 calls each year. They respond to such issues as mental illness, addiction, domestic violence, sexual assault, grief, and suicide.

“We know that stigma, fear and shame are often barriers to accessing mental health or social services,” said Mike LaBonte, executive director for the program. “As a confidential telephone program, the Crisis Center often serves as a point of entry for those who might not otherwise access the help they need.”

See Crisis Center, pg. 10

Cardiovascular Conference

On February 27, Methodist and UTHSC are sponsoring the first annual WomenHeart Conference, Fighting the Cardiovascular Epidemic in Women: Evidence and Gender-based Approaches. The conference will be held at the Westin Hotel Beale Street.

For more information, please contact Kathy Kastan at kathy.kastan@gmail.com.
The UT Health Science Center held its Second Annual Campus Food Drive throughout the entire month of November. The event kick off occurred during employee appreciation day. Exceeding last year’s amount significantly, the campus collected 5,794 pounds of food, supplies and converted monetary donations. This nearly three tons of food will make 4,635 meals.

Due to the high unemployment rate and the overall economic downturn, the Mid-South Food Bank is serving 30 percent more people than in previous years.

In addition to the donations, UTHSC was able to help raise awareness for the need of the Memphis Food Bank. On December 9, representatives from the campus appeared live on Action News 5 to report the amount of food and total monetary donations that were raised for our neighbors in need.

Thanks to the dedicated employees who collected 551 pounds of food in one day. Those employees who donated the most received a special reward:

First Place - Julius Jennings, facilities, won a two-night stay at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel with breakfast for two at TGIF
Second Place - Jennifer Young, custodial services, Sunday brunch for two at the Peabody Hotel
Third Place - Nefertoria Harris, campus police, one month of free parking on campus.

Assisting the Mid-South Food Bank, which is located a few blocks away on South Dudley Street, allows the Health Science Center to reinforce our commitment to our mission, which includes improving health through public service. According to the Memphis Food Bank, 2,631 pounds of food and household supplies was donated in 2008.

For more information, please contact Malrie Shelton at mshelto5@uthsc.edu.

**Determined Harmful Odors in the Workplace**

The presence of odors in the workplace is one of the most unnerving issues that one can face in the course of performing one’s job. Whether the source of the odor is from a hazardous material or not, the presence of any odor can be a matter of concern to those exposed. Typically, one's initial response is to question the potential health effects of the material causing the odor. Additional concerns arise if one has a sensitivity or allergic reaction. The presence of odors can be indicative of problems with a building’s mechanical system, such as fume hoods, heating and air conditioning, or plumbing. Or it can be due to human factors. There are steps that you can take to identify, mitigate, and reduce or eliminate the occurrence of these nuisances.

Often, being able to identify the odor can be helpful in determining its source and reducing its impact. The following are common workplace odors and steps you can take when they are encountered.

**Natural Gas.** Mercaptans added to natural gas, which is odorless in its natural state, has a distinctive odor which allows the detection of even the smallest amount of natural gas leaking into the air. The low odor threshold, which is when your nose can detect a smell, of the mercaptans means that you can smell a natural gas leak at a far less concentration than what is needed to ignite a fire or cause an explosion. If you smell natural gas, check the gas lines (in labs) to make sure they are closed.

**Sewer Gas.** Sewer gas often has a “rotten egg” smell due to the hydrogen sulfide content, which can be detected in concentrations as low as 2 parts per billion (ppb). Sewage gas is typically restricted from entering rooms through plumbing traps that create a water seal at potential points of entry. Infrequently used plumbing fixtures may allow sewer gas to enter due to evaporation of water in the trap, especially in dry weather. The result is the most common means of sewer gas entering rooms, and can be solved easily by using the fixtures regularly and routinely adding water to drains. One of the most common traps to dry out are floor drains. Infrequently used utility sinks, tubs, showers, and rest rooms also are common culprits.

**Fugitive Chemicals.** Fugitive chemical odors are those odors found most frequently in laboratory areas. Ideally, one should not experience odors in labs. The presence of chemical odors can be due to many factors. Typically, they can be traced to mechanical system problems, such as malfunctioning fume hoods or building ventilation system. Often chemical odors are the result of improper usage by lab workers. Failure to work under the hood when working with volatile organic compounds, performing odor emitting procedures on the workbench, and disposal of odor emitting liquid down lab sinks are common sources of odors in laboratories. Adherence to standard laboratory practices can go a long way towards reduction of fugitive chemical odors.

**Perfumes and Colognes.** Surprisingly, there are many individuals who experience adverse physical reactions to scents. Some workplaces have implemented policies restricting the use of perfumes, colognes, and after shave lotion. It should be a common courtesy to limit the amount of fragrance that one applies. The general rule of thumb is that your scent should not be detectable unless someone is within arm’s length.

If you smell a gas odor please, call the facilities Help Desk at (901) 448-5661, and report a natural gas odor. If you smell a chemical odor, please contact Safety Affairs at (901) 448-6114.
Heart Walk Raises More Than $12,000

On October 3, UTHSC joined other organizations by participating in the 2009 AHA Heart Walk, an annual fundraiser that raises money to fight heart disease and stroke. Once again, the Health Science Center raised more than $12,000 towards these efforts and was recognized for sporting the best T-shirt during the event.

UTHSC has participated in the American Heart Association’s Memphis Heart Walk since 2003. The event remains important to the organization because of the many campus efforts that have been made to raise awareness to fight the top killer of Memphians.

The three-mile walk began at AutoZone Park. The event goal was $550,000 and just short of its goal has raised $445,509 to date. Survivors of heart disease or stroke were given a red cap in recognition of their successful fight.

The American Heart Association’s efforts have made an overall impact. According to AHA, in January 2008, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released new mortality data showing that since 1999, coronary heart disease and stroke age-adjusted death rates are down by 25.8 percent and 24.4 percent, respectively.

ARRA Expands HIPAA Rules with New Data Breach Notification

The HITECH Act part of ARRA imposes Improved Privacy and Security Provisions that are now in effect. These provisions include stricter enforcement with larger criminal and civil penalties for HIPAA violations, extending HIPAA to Business Associates and providing more accounting for disclosures.

The act also establishes a new data breach notification requirement for unauthorized disclosures of protected health information. This applies to all protected health information including limited data sets, whether in paper, verbal or electronic form. In the event of an unauthorized disclosure that meets the tests of a data breach, notification is required. Depending on the number of patients or research subjects involved, the notification is to the individual or through the public media. In any case, notification to the Secretary of Health and Human Services is required; HHS will post the names of violators on their Web site. Of course, civil and criminal penalties may follow.

To comply with this law, all unauthorized disclosures of protected health information must be reported. Contact either Carolyn Moffitt, Privacy Officer, at (901) 448-1672 or cmoffitt@uthsc.edu or Joe Morrison, IT Security Officer, at 448-1774 or jmorri24@uthsc.edu.

Vice Chancellor Honored at Men of Excellence Awards

On November 20 the Tri-State Defender held its Men of Excellence Awards ceremony. Dr. Ken Brown was one of 50 men honored and received the award from event sponsor C.C. Myers, owner of CC Myers Custom Tailor in Cordova, Tenn.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, was among 50 men who were honored in the inaugural Tri-State Defender’s Men of Excellence Salute on November 20 at the Peabody Hotel.

The Tri-State Defender is one of the longest, continuously published African-American papers in the United States, in circulation since 1951. The Men of Excellence Awards Ceremony was established in honor of John Sengstacke, who served as publisher of the Tri-State Defender until his death in May of 1997. Sengstacke was considered a “man of excellence” because of his role in founding and sustaining a newspaper aimed towards African-Americans during the Civil Rights Movement.

The Tri-State Defender and UTHSC work together to support various initiatives in our community. UTHSC has been a supporter of The Tri-State Defender through the help of Dr. Brown and the UTHSC Communications and Marketing staff. The paper has supported a number of events and educational programs at the Health Science Center as well as remained an avenue for filtering information into the African-American community.

Office of Human Subjects Protection Congratulates Staff

The UTHSC Office of Human Subjects Protection would like to congratulate Margaret Sularin, MSSW, RD, LD N, Department of Preventive Medicine, Susan Thomas, RN, BSN, CCRP, Department of Preventive Medicine and Lisa Mason Sutton, RN, BSN, MA, CCRP, Department of Plastic Surgery-Burn Center, for receiving their certification as Clinical Research Professionals (CCRP) through the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SoCRA). Thank you for continuing to improve and enhance the clinical research profession.
Star Achievement Holds Second Graduation

On November 6, a team of 35 UTHSC administrative professionals graduated from the Level 1 Star Achievement Program, earning more skills to contribute to their work at UTHSC.

Skill, attitude, teamwork and strategy represent the essence that help make up the attributes of the 35 employees who graduated from the Level 1 Star Achievement Program on November 6. Star Achievement provides administrative professionals with more in-depth skills that lead to continued success to move their careers to a higher level. To date, 90 employees have completed the program.

The Star Achievement Program was launched on the UTHSC campus in 2007 by Chandra Alston, former interim assistant director in Human Resources. She is now the assistant dean of administration in the College of Allied Health Sciences.

The program has proven to be a success. So much that a Level 2 program will launch in March, by lead facilitator Darnita Brassel, training coordinator in the UTHSC Human Resources Department. Monica Fleming, administrative assistant to the chancellor, co-facilitated Level 1 in 2009 and has quickly moved up in the program, taking on duties as lead facilitator of the next Level 1 class. Monica is a graduate of the 2008 Star Achievement Program.

Donna Hathaway, RN, DNP, dean and professor in the College of Nursing, was on hand to lend a manager’s perspective of the Star Achievement Program. Dean Hathaway praised her administrative assistant Belinda Loyd for her diligence and prompt ability in knowing the needs of the College of Nursing, while exercising the judgment to make decisions for the department. “I can always count on Belinda to have important things done before I even ask,” Dean Hathaway expressed.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown gave the closing remarks. “You have the capacity to be a star achiever and it is evident in looking at the faces of individuals that are in this room. You represent what it takes – skill, attitude, teamwork and strategy.”

The 2009 graduation also featured a tribute to Kenneth Campbell, the first male employee to complete the program. Kenneth passed away shortly before the graduation celebration. In addition to his certificate of completion, he was remembered for his perseverance and commitment with the first Star Award for Inspiration.

The event served as the second graduation on the UTHSC campus and represents 24 hours of rigorous training. Congratulations to the following 2009 Star Achievers.

Charmagyne Akram Levader Jones Christi Shelton
Kizzy Allen Carolyn Jones-Hedgepeth Vada Singleton
Emma Anderson Andrea Jordan Brenda Smith
Angela “Nikki” Body Deloris King Carlisa Smith
Kenneth Campbell Belinda Loyd Ann Denise Steverson
Marsha Chorice Beverly McCray Gwen Stornes
Laura Daniels-Jones Teresa Mitchell Demetria Sturgis
Jennifer Hart Trushauna Morgan Clara Taliaferro
Patricia Hill Cynthia Morrow Eloise Tate
Marjo Jacks Barbara Patton Shenika Thomas
Connie Jackson Ruthie Ruston Mary Tunstall
Rosemary Jackson Melanie Saucier

TIP Taking New Applications

UTHSC is taking applications for the Tennessee Institutes for Pre-Professionals (TIP) program. TIP, commonly referred to as the Tennessee Pre-Health Science Fellowship Program, offers educational opportunities to residents of Tennessee who are members of underrepresented groups and wish to pursue a career in medicine, dentistry or pharmacy.

The program exposes individuals to health care careers, prepares them for entrance exams and allows them to take courses taught by University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) faculty. All applications must be submitted no later than February 28.

TIP offers a wealth of information, advice, counsel, and stipend assistance while in the program. UTHSC actively seeks applications from veterans and from individuals who are historically underrepresented in science and in the health care professions, underrepresented minority students, non-traditional students, students with disabilities, and students who represent the first in their families to pursue higher education.

Individuals will receive year-round advice, support, and activities designed to assist students to realize their career goals. TIP is a state effort with participation by all the state’s public colleges.

Three tracks have been implemented to prepare underrepresented Tennesseans for successful matriculation into UTHSC programs. Track I provides students with an internship exposure to shadow health care practitioners; Track II provides a standardized test-preparation experience for students attempting the following professional school examinations: MCAT, DAT, and PCAT; and Track III provides pre-matriculation experience, which simulates the professional curriculum with courses taught by professional school faculty.

For more information call (901) 448-8772, or visit http://www.uthsc.edu/tip/.

New Safety Grant

Preventive Medicine in collaboration with UTHSC Campus Police Department was recently awarded “Campus Safety Grant” from the Department of Justice. The grant is designed to reduce domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
College of Nursing Runs, Wins Accreditation Marathon

Hosting four accreditation site visits in two years may sound like an academic marathon. And if it were, it would have been a race that the UTHSC College of Nursing won.

The College of Nursing recently received final notification of successful accreditation from four different organizations. The accrediting bodies include the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, American Nurses Credentialing Center, and the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

College of Nursing Executive Associate Dean Susan Jacob, PhD, RN, chaired the accreditation task force and expressed her feelings of the efforts: “Although the lengthy self-assessment process required for each of these accreditations was very labor intensive, it is very rewarding to know that our programs have undergone rigorous review and have not only met the accreditation standards, but are viewed as very high quality.”

The preparation for these evaluating visits spanned three years and entailed thorough self-assessment of curriculum, resources and outcomes of graduates. Three of the four reviews occurred this year, while the visit from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care took place last year.

Each of the accrediting bodies reviewed a specific area of the College of Nursing. The exact areas of accreditation are explained in more detail:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

The CCNE has reaccredited the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) – for 10 years, the maximum period allowed.

In addition, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program has earned initial accreditation, also for the maximum period, five years. This practice doctorate program, which began in 1999, was one of the first DNP programs in the country, as well as one of the first to earn accreditation.

The CCNE recognition validates the academic quality and high standards of the master’s and doctoral programs in the College of Nursing.

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA)

The COA has granted continued accreditation for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) for the maximum period allowed 10 years.

In addition, the COA has granted the accreditation for the DNP entry into nurse anesthesia practice program the maximum period allowed of 10 years. The COA noted that very few programs are granted accreditation with no progress report required and that even fewer programs have achieved maximum accreditation of 10 years.

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

The Continuing Education Provider Unit in the College of Nursing was granted reaccreditation by the ANCC.

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC)

In 2008, the AAAHC awarded UTHSC’s University Health Services an initial three-year term of accreditation (2008-2011). Granting accreditation reflects confidence that UHS meets and continues to demonstrate the attributes of an accountable organization as reflected in the standards found in the Accreditation Handbook for Ambulatory Health Care. The compliance with those standards implies a commitment to continual self-evaluation and continuous improvement.

Participating in these voluntary accrediting processes ensures quality and integrity of academic and continuing education programs, as well as prepares the CON for future requirements. One such example of this is the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s decision to move the current level of educational preparation for advanced nursing practice from the master’s level to the doctoral level by 2015. This means that the standard for advanced practice becomes the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The PhD in Nursing will remain the accepted degree for nurse researchers.

The UTHSC CON has already transitioned the master’s advanced practice programs to the doctoral level. The only remaining master’s program is the professional entry master’s generalist degree – Clinical Nurse Leader.

Best Doctors in America® Names 89 UT Medical Group Physicians to 2009–2010 Database

The 2009-2010 listing of Best Doctors in America® names 89 physicians affiliated with UT Medical Group, Inc. as best in their fields.

The Best Doctors in America database is widely regarded as a high-quality reference guide to the medical profession. The list is based on an exhaustive survey of currently listed Best Doctors specialists who are asked to rate the clinical abilities of their peers. Participants are asked, “If you or a loved one needed a doctor, to whom would you refer them?” Specialists complete ballots on other doctors in their own and in related specialties. They may also nominate other physicians who they think should be included in the review process.

Best Doctors, Inc. does not accept compensation from physicians or hospitals in return for listing doctors in its database, nor does it pay doctors to participate in the survey.

UT Medical Group is the private group practice affiliated with the UT Health Science Center College of Medicine faculty. A not-for-profit, non-tax-supported group practice, UTMG is dedicated to quality patient care, medical education, and medical research. For more information, visit www.utmedical-group.com.

View UTHSC News Notes

Catch up on UTHSC media coverage by visiting http://www.uthsc.edu/news/newsnotes/. 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 providing links (when available) for more information.
The Crisis Center is uniquely positioned to provide immediate emotional support to those in crisis and encourage treatment and compliance among the chronically mentally ill and those struggling with addiction and in recovery. This role is critical and at times life-saving. “Approximately 5 percent of clients have some level of suicidal ideation when they call the Crisis Center,” LaBonte explained. The Crisis Center is part of the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. SAMHSA is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“Our volunteers are simply overwhelmed by this generous donation of space by the Health Science Center,” LaBonte continued. “The university has not only donated a space for the call center but a space for our training facility as well. The Allen O. Battle Training Center will allow us to continue to have a place to train both Crisis Center volunteers and community members. Without the support and commitment of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center none of this would be possible.”

He noted that community involvement is a big component of the work of the Crisis Center. “As a volunteer-powered agency, we rely on our volunteers to provide the service. They take that training and experience back out into the community and become an ongoing source of strength. It’s a way the community can collaborate in its own support system,” LaBonte added.

If you need help call (901) CRISIS-7, or toll free 1-800-273-TALK. If you would like to help by volunteering, please call (901) 871-0343.
On December 19, UTHSC hosted its year-end Employee Recognition Luncheon. During the luncheon, two employees were presented with special awards.

Patrick Loggins was named the 2009 Thomas C. Lichterman Employee of the Year. The Thomas C. Lichterman Award is given to a deserving, non-exempt, full time employee annually at UT Health Science Center, which also includes employees at St. Francis Hospital, the Jackson, Tenn. site or UTMG. This award is a prestigious honor for employees who have contributed beyond the usual scope of their jobs.

Patrick, refrigeration and air supervisor in Facilities - Mechanical Services, has been an employee for eight years. Patrick was presented with a $1,500 check and a plaque for dedicated service to the Health Science Center.

Christa Deiss was named the 2009 Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award recipient. The Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award evolved during the UT Family Campaign in 2007. This award was created to recognize non-faculty exempt employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or have made significant contributions to the university community that far exceeded the expectations of their positions. Moreover, Michael and Chandra Alston, co-chairs for non-exempt staff and non-faculty exempt staff groups, during HSC Family Campaign are the original donors behind this award.

Christa, coordinator/certified medical office manager in University Health Services, has been with UTHSC for 17 years. Christa is the first and only employee at the Health Science Center to have received both awards (Lichterman and CESAs). As the winner of the Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award, Christa was also presented with a $1,500 check and a plaque for dedicated service to the Health Science Center.

UTMG Names Cohen to Medical Staff

Sandra W. Cohen, MD, has joined the Department of Internal Medicine at the Germantown office of UT Medical Group, Inc.

Cohen is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with added qualifications in geriatrics. She earned her medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency at Manhattan’s Veterans Administration at New York University Medical Center. She serves as assistant professor of medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

UT Medical Group is the private group practice affiliated with the UT Health Science Center College of Medicine faculty. A not-for-profit, non-tax-supported group practice, UTMG is dedicated to quality patient care, medical education, and medical research. For more information, visit www.utmedicalgroup.com.

Sakauye Contributes to Disaster Statement for Seniors

Kenneth Sakauye, MD, professor in the Department of Psychiatry recently co-chaired the Disaster Preparedness Task Force for the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry. The task force was established to give seniors information on emergency preparedness.

While many older Americans display resiliency and strength in the face of natural and man-made disasters, communities and families should have targeted disaster preparedness and aftermath plans in place for vulnerable older adults, says the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry.

In an official position statement published in the November American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, AAGP’s Disaster Preparedness Task Force members advise special planning and response for older adults who are typically more vulnerable to the physical and emotional stresses of a disaster.

“AAGP’s appointment of a task force to address the paucity of attention to the elderly was greatly needed,” said Dr. Sakauye, co-chair of the AAGP Disaster Preparedness Task Force. Members advise special planning and response for older adults who are typically more vulnerable to the physical and emotional stresses of a disaster.


New Phone Number for ITS

The ITS department has a new telephone number. As of January 1, anyone with ITS related inquiries should call (901) 448-2222. For more information, please contact Jason Holden at sholden@uthsc.edu.
Safe ‘til Stable Launched on UTHSC Campus

On November 17, Memphis Mayor AC Wharton held a press conference at the UTHSC Student-Alumni Center on the Memphis campus to support a new cooperative venture called “Safe ‘til Stable®.” The new initiative is a major breakthrough to benefit people living with bipolar disorder. The program provides vital medical information to emergency responders in time of need through MedicAlert’s live 24-hour emergency response service. In a medical emergency, this can help reduce the trauma experienced by individuals with bipolar disorder.

If an individual experiences an event, first responders on the scene (e.g., law enforcement, emergency services personnel, etc.) will look for a medical ID with the “MEDIC ALERT” symbol. The Safe ‘til Stable program is a milestone in that individuals with bipolar disorder will have a voice in times when they cannot speak for themselves. In times of emergency, they will be properly routed for assistance. This will provide a sense of security for these individuals and those close to them. The Memphis-based National Bipolar Foundation and MedicAlert collaborated on this joint initiative.

Participants in the press conference included Michael LaBonte, executive director of The Crisis Center of Memphis; Dr. James Greene, chairman of the UTHSC Department of Psychiatry; Stephen Bush of the Jericho Project; Dr. Steve Schwab, interim chancellor for UTHSC, and Dr. Ken Brown, UTHSC executive vice chancellor and chief of staff. Dr. Brown thanked the group for “taking proactive forward-thinking steps to help the mentally ill. We at the Health Science Center are ecstatic to be part of this effort.”

“It crowns my day to know that I am in the leadership role in a city that seeks to extend life, restore health and alleviate pain,” Mayor Wharton continued, “a city that seeks to expand understanding and spread tolerance among everyone we contact. This initiative and others like it make Memphis the world leaders in crisis intervention. We are the caring capital of the world.”

The National Bipolar Foundation (NBPF) was founded in 2007 by Marc Kullman, in order to educate, reduce stigma and seek affordable health care for people living with bipolar disorder. Kullman was diagnosed as bipolar about 11 years ago and was forced to retire from his corporate position as a result. He told those attending that years ago he was so ashamed of being treated for the condition that he refused to sit in his provider’s waiting room for fear that someone he knew would see him and discover his diagnosis.

“For two years I waited in the kitchen by myself every time I had an appointment,” he said. “There are more than 10 million people in this country who are bipolar and there may be many more but they won’t come out and be diagnosed because of the stigma. We need to start these conversations, reduce the stigma, increase education and encourage people to get treated.”

The NBPF’s National Awareness Initiative was launched to educate and inform through press releases, press conferences, proclamations, influential people, and its online social media campaign. For more information, visit www.nationabipolarfoundation.org. The MedicAlert Foundation, founded in 1956, is the leader in providing identification and emergency medical information. Visit www.medicalert.org for details.

The Safe ‘til Stable program provides critical information that first responders will use to determine the route of certain people who find themselves approached by law enforcement.

UTHSC Recognizes 2009 Retirees for Service

More than 1100 years of service collectively mark the amount of time UTHSC employees who retired in 2009 gave during their career. The Health Science Center bids farewell to these individuals with thanks for their dedication. The following individuals are recognized for building a meaningful career at the Health Science Center:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phillip Aes</td>
<td>Clinical Specialist II</td>
<td>8 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raoul Areola</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Bozicevich</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>39 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Bradley</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Briggs</td>
<td>Service Aide II</td>
<td>31 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Burghen</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>44 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Calvin</td>
<td>Sr. Admin Services Asst</td>
<td>25 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Carruth</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>21 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Chiang</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>31 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clair Cox</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>40 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gail Dobkins</td>
<td>Medical Admin Coordinator</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Frey</td>
<td>Interim Dean and Professor</td>
<td>9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Gerald</td>
<td>Professor and Chair</td>
<td>41 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Gooch</td>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maxine Goodman</td>
<td>Admin Services Asst</td>
<td>11 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rex Hamm</td>
<td>Clinical Coordinator</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Haynes</td>
<td>Med Affairs Res Associate</td>
<td>35 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Holland</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae Ree Jackson</td>
<td>Employment Assistant</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebert Kesick</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Korones</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>41 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Lewis</td>
<td>Administrative Coordinator</td>
<td>25 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Maday</td>
<td>Research Nurse</td>
<td>34 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delores Moss</td>
<td>Senior Custodian</td>
<td>23 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>23 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence Pritchard</td>
<td>Medical Lab Technician</td>
<td>8 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welton Ray</td>
<td>Medical Service Aide</td>
<td>6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elias Rosenberg</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>42 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donnell Russell</td>
<td>Heavy Duty R&amp;A Mechanic</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Sauters</td>
<td>Specialist I</td>
<td>13 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Scallions</td>
<td>Coordinator I</td>
<td>45 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearlley Slaughter</td>
<td>Security Guard</td>
<td>14 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Smith</td>
<td>Medical Research Assistant</td>
<td>17 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Spikes</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>22 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Stephens</td>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Stewart</td>
<td>Sr. Admin Services Asst</td>
<td>32 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Thompson</td>
<td>IT Technologist</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Wagner</td>
<td>Admin Support Asst III</td>
<td>25 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melvin Willis</td>
<td>Maintenance Mechanic</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oatrus Withers</td>
<td>Maintenance Helper</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Wyatt</td>
<td>Asst, Dean/Acc Assoc Professor</td>
<td>18 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Wood</td>
<td>Medical Admin Coordinator</td>
<td>35 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tai June You</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin Beasley</td>
<td>Carpenter Shop Supervisor</td>
<td>26 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald Donaldson</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>41 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcia Egan</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>21 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Helme</td>
<td>Professor and Chair</td>
<td>20 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Holmes</td>
<td>Research Technician</td>
<td>30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phyllis Mikula</td>
<td>Accounting Specialist</td>
<td>24 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
College of Medicine Recognizes Excellence

Significant medical strides have been made locally, nationally and internationally as a direct result of outstanding UTHSC College of Medicine graduates. Annually, the College of Medicine honors four alumni recognized by the executive committee of its alumni council as having made distinguished contributions to the health care industry. This year’s Outstanding Alumni Awards were presented during a noon luncheon ceremony at the Peabody Hotel on Friday, October 16. Honorees included: Drs. Henry Cheairs Farrar, James Netterville, T. David Sisk (posthumously) and O. Douglas Wilson.

Henry Cheairs Farrar, MD, Class of 1954, showed an early commitment to the craft of surgery, which earned him the UTHSC Verandang Award in March of the same year. He has since devoted his entire career to general surgery in the United States and abroad. He has served as a surgeon in Kentucky and Tennessee, and for 40 years, he spent one month per year in Nigeria where he started a hospital, which now has more than 100 beds.

To ensure that his dream of assisting the surgical needs of the African citizens in Nigeria continues, Dr. Farrar has secured financial and professional support for the hospital from the International Health Care Foundation in Searcy, Ark., and from Healing Hands International in Nashville.

Dr. Farrar currently practices medicine and surgery Carthage, Tenn., near Nashvillle. All six of his children have earned career success, with three of them being practicing physicians.

James Netterville, MD, Class of 1980, is an internationally recognized head and neck surgeon. In 1986, he joined Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville and was a founding member of the Department of Otolaryngology. Currently, he serves the university as professor of otolaryngology and director of the Division of Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery. Head and neck concerns involving voice rehabilitation, skull base, endocrine and oncologic problems are among his clinical and research interests.

Dr. Netterville is a member of numerous medical societies, review boards and executive committees, and has received significant awards and honors. He thrives on mentoring Vanderbilt Medical Center’s young medical students, residents and fellows. To recognize him, in 2003, Vanderbilt medical students bestowed upon him the initial CANDLE Award for teaching and mentoring excellence. Beyond his work at Vanderbilt, Dr. Netterville strongly supports medical missions through a surgical outreach program in Nigeria. He has also been an honored medical guest in countries in North and South America, Europe and Australia.

In 2004, Dr. Netterville’s peers honored him with the annual Humanitarian Award from the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery.

T. David Sisk, MD, was a member of the Class of 1961. He dedicated his career to orthopaedic medicine and is being honored posthumously, having departed this life in July 2009.

During his career, Dr. Sisk joined the Campbell Clinic medical staff and the UT Health Science Center College of Medicine faculty where he directed the orthopaedic resident training program from 1970 to 1993. From 1990 to 1994, he served as professor and chairman of the Campbell Clinic – UT Department of Orthopaedics.

Dr. Sisk chaired numerous committees including a sports medicine committee of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. His expertise in sports medicine led him to act as a consultant to the National Football League and the National Basketball Association. Additionally, he served as a team physician for various high school teams, professional football teams in several leagues, and for the University of Memphis from 1967 to 2002.

O. Douglas Wilson, MD, is an alumnus of the Class of 1964. While in medical school, he also served in the U.S. Navy. Dr. Wilson was assigned the role of senior naval medical officer, and while enlisted, he developed his expertise in the area of pediatric medicine.
PEOPLE

Roland N. Dickerson, PharmD, professor of clinical pharmacy was selected as the recipient of the 2009 ASHP Foundation Literature Award. In recognition, he received a plaque and $1,000 expense allowance for his attendance at the ASHP 2009 Midyear Clinical Meeting in Las Vegas.

Irvin Fleming, MD, professor of surgical oncology and medical director, Methodist Cancer Center, was recently recognized at the annual meeting of the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC). The AJCC dedicated the 7th edition of the Cancer Staging Manual to Dr. Fleming and presented him with a framed plaque of the publication’s cover and dedication page.

Brenda Green, MLS, associate professor and coordinator of Instructional Services, participated in the annual free fundraising luncheon for Hope House Day Care Center (www.hopehousedaycare.org) on December 1 at the Holiday Inn at the University of Memphis.

The free luncheon provided information about Hope House, the only facility in the state of Tennessee designed to meet the unique needs of HIV-affected children.

Green has been a supporter of Hope House Day Care Center for a number of years. Her journey with Hope House began about seven years ago when she worked with them on two grants from the National Library of Medicine. Hope House makes about seven years. Her journey with Hope House began.

Dr. Mitchell Watsky’s research lies primarily in the development and use of computer-aided surgery in total-joint replacement, especially as it compares to the outcomes associated with other methods of total-joint replacement. In his practice, he is one of the few physicians practicing this technique in the Memphis area and is a founder of the technology as he was part of the first computer-assisted total knee performed in the United States.

Linda Porterfield, PhD, has been appointed to full professorship of cardiology in the College of Medicine. She has been teaching within the college as a adjunct professor for many years. Porterfield also works with the Arrythmia Consultants Clinic, where she provides care for nearly 2,000 patients a year.

Luísa E. Ramírez de Lynch, physical therapist, recently received the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) 2009 Multicultural Council Leadership in Diversity Award.

The award recognizes individuals for their contributions to the association and the disabilities field. This year, individual Leadership in Diversity awards were given to the Tennessee Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, the Boling Center for Development Disabilities as well as three key individuals who have contributed to the Tennessee Camino Seguro and Camino Seguro West projects.

Carol A. Schwab, JD, LLM, director of academic affairs, authored a book entitled “Legal Issues in Health Care” that was highlighted as one of MedEdPortal’s featured publications. MedEdPortal is a free peer-reviewed publication service and repository for medical and oral health teaching materials, assessment tools and faculty development resources.

Burt M. Sharp, MD, professor and Van Vleet Chair of Excellence in the Department of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, and his colleagues have been awarded $2,546,000 to identify how genes expressed in the brain make adolescents vulnerable to the addictive effects of nicotine. This very large-scale two-year grant runs through 2011.

Dr. Sharp and his colleagues, Shannon Matta, PhD, and Hao Chen, PhD, will use state-of-the-art gene sequencing technology coupled with laser capture of neurons to discover the genes that control the activity of specific nicotine-sensitive neurons within the brain.

Emma Tillman, pharmacy fellow, was awarded the 2009 Travel Award for the Annual Meeting in Anaheim by the PRN Networking Forum. The title of the winning abstract is “Eicosapentaenoic acid attenuates bile acid induced hepatocellular injury by reducing apoptosis and inflammation.” Dr. Tillman was provided $500 toward her trip expenses.

Mitchell Watsky, PhD, professor of physiology, was appointed associate dean for the Department of Graduate Health Sciences by Interim Chancellor Schwab.

He assumed his role on October 1. This appointment reflects the cooperation and interdependence of the College of Medicine and the College of Graduate Health Sciences in the vital task of advanced health science education.

Dr. Watsky obtained his PhD in 1989 from the Medical College of Wisconsin. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship in physiology and biophysics with the Mayo Foundation under the tutelage of James Rae, PhD. Dr. Watsky joined UTHSC in 1992 as an assistant professor in the Department of Physiology, and has since been awarded tenure as full professor within the department.

UT Earns Top-Level CME Accreditation

The UT College of Medicine, with contributions from its campuses in Knoxville and Chattanooga, earned the highest accreditation possible for CME providers: Accreditation with Commendation from the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME).

The reaccreditation process for providers with Accreditation with Commendation is extended from four years to every six years.
On December 10 UTHSC held its Postdoctoral Research Day. Keynote Speaker, Dr. Peter Doherty, was honored for his work, success and appreciation and was presented an award by Anna Bukia, PhD in the Department of Pharmacology.

More than 100 postdoctoral research trainees and research associates joined UTHSC for the Second Annual Postdoctoral Research Day on December 10. Participants from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Christian Brothers University began the day with a poster session and ended with a showcase and mixer.

The keynote speaker was Peter Doherty, PhD, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Dr. Doherty’s presentation titled, “The Scientific Life,” was both amusing and informative as he captured listeners’ attention through his life stories and tales on how he began his career.

Dr. Doherty joined St. Jude in 1988. He won the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1996 with Rolf M. Zinkernagel, MD. The immunologists’ experiments revolutionized the field by explaining the mechanism of T-cell recognition in cell-mediated immunity. They discovered T cells simultaneously recognize MHC self-protein and a foreign antigen on the surface of virally infected cells. Their discovery of MHC Restriction of T-Cell Recognition opened the door to an understanding of the immune system that has impacted autoimmune disease research, vaccine design, organ transplantation and the understanding of immune surveillance.

The poster session winners were announced immediately following Dr. Doherty’s presentation and several awards were given. First place was awarded to Megan Mulligan, PhD, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology. Second place was awarded to Zoran Pavicevic, MD, PhD, Dental Research Center, and Debeshi Majumdar, PhD, Department of Pathology, received third place honors.

Travel awards were given to Nora Urraca, MD, MSc, Department of Neurology, and Fariboz Yaghini, MD, Department of Pharmacology. For more information, please contact the Postdoctoral Office at (901) 448-2661.

**UTHSC on Security and Cyber Awareness**

October marked the sixth annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NSCAM) sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and UTHSC joined in the efforts by promoting safe computing.

The theme for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2009 was “Our Shared Responsibility” to reinforce the message that all computer users, not just industry and government, have a responsibility to practice good “cyber hygiene” and to protect themselves and their families at home, at work and at school.

NSCAM is a national awareness campaign to encourage everyone to protect their computers and our nation’s critical cyber infrastructure. At UTHSC, we are making available podcasts of cyber security tips on the UTHSC iTunesU site. The first podcast, Avoiding Social Engineering and Phishing Attacks, is now available at http://www.uthsc.edu/iTunesU. More podcasts will follow.

For more information, please contact Joseph Morrison in ITS - Computer Security at (901) 448-1774.

**GRANTS**

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

**Ronald Atkins**

NIH-National Institute of Child Health & Human Development

“ARRA-Maternal-Fetal Conflict: The Effect of Imprinted Genes on Fetal Growth”

$358,132

**William Armstrong, PhD**

NIH-National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

“ARRA-Electrophysiological correlates of Vasopressin Secretion”

$274,522

**Jegdish Babu, PhD**

Cranberry Institute of America

“Influence of Cranberry Juice Components on Denture-related stomach and inflammatory reactions of Ging”

$40,000

**Dennis Black, MD**

Food and Drug Administration

“Ursodeoxycholic Acid Therapy in Pediatric Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis A pilot”

$200,000

**John Buolamwini, PhD**

NIH-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease

“ARRA-Discovery and Optimization of Novel Integrase Inhibitors as Anti-HIV Agents”

$244,561

**Gerald Byrne, PhD**

NIH-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease

“Training Grant in Bacterial Pathogenesis”

$74,907

**Connie Klopfenstein Cupp**

International Transplant Nurses Society

“Characterizing Dietary Intake and Physical Activity Affecting Weight Gain in Non-Obese Kidney Transplant”

$2,000

**Mitzi Dunagan**

NIH-National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

“Aceataldehyde and Epithelial Junctions: Role of PP2A and Occludin Phosphorylation”

$30,305

**Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, PhD**

NIH-National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

“ARRA-The Role of Neutrophils in Hypersensitive Pneumonitis”

$158,632

**Miranda Hallet**

NIH-National Cancer Institute

“Degradation of Breast Cancer Tumor Growth and Metastasis with an anti-MMP-9”

$25,176

**Polly Hofmann, PhD**

NIH-National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

“ARRA-Myocardial Ischemia-Reperfusion and Protein Phosphatase 2a”

$429,438

**Karen Johnson**

NIH-National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease

“ARRA-look AHEAD Continuation: Actin for Health in Diabetes”

$137,197

See Grants, pg. 17
**Dietitian Receives American Dietetic Associations’ Highest Award**

On October 17, Jane V. White, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine registered dietitian, was named the 2009 recipient of the Marjorie Hulsizer Copher Award, the American Dietetic Association’s (ADA) highest honor. White has served as ADA’s president; member and speaker of the House of Delegates; member of the Board of Directors of ADA and the American Dietetic Association Foundation; member and chair of ADA’s Coding and Coverage Committee; member of ADA’s Health Care Reform Task Force; and chair of ADA’s Nutrition Screening Initiative and Physician Nutrition Education Project, among many other leadership positions. In 1996, she received ADA’s Medallion of Directors of ADA and the American Dietetic Association’s Highest Award.

**UT’s Preston Medical Library Marks 20 Years as Valuable Resource**

Gaining knowledge. Reduce stress. Improve communication with your physician. You might not think a medical library could help its patrons accomplish these goals, but for 20 years, Preston Medical Library has done just that, and as of October, they can teach you how.

Preston Medical Library at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine sometimes surprises people. Of course, the library has a wide variety of medical resources for physicians’ research. The librarians are specially trained, and Preston has been a valued resource for the medical community for more than 40 years.

For 20 years, Preston has been providing health information to families, patients and anyone in the community, state and country, free of charge. The information is as close as a telephone or computer. And the best part is that it is reliable, up to date and easy to understand.

“We recently asked about 300 people in the community who have used our health information service if it was valuable to them,” said Sandy Oelschlegel, library director. “What we learned is that the service has been much more than just a source of information.”

Users of the Consumer and Patient Health Information Service reported their own stress levels and those of their families were reduced by the information they received from Preston Medical Library. More than 90 percent said they had gained knowledge they could easily understand, and perhaps most importantly, almost 85 percent said the information they received from Preston helped them communicate with their health care providers.

“An important benefit of the service is that people can gather information about their health concerns and be able to have more productive relationships with their physicians,” said Oelschlegel. “The information is not medical advice; that comes from health care providers. The information we provide helps people understand their conditions, so they feel more confident asking questions of their health care providers.”

To use the Consumer and Patient Health Information Service, call, e-mail or visit Preston Medical Library, located on the campus with University of Tennessee Medical Center, (865) 305-9525, library@utmck.edu. Preston Medical Library also helps people learn how to access trustworthy health information from the internet.

**BCDD Offers Support on Aging**

Coping with aging can be difficult for families. To offer support for this issue, the UTHSC Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities (BCDD) held the Pathways to Future Destinations Conference: Experiences in Aging, Grief and Life on October 18-19. This two-day regional event focused on the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families throughout the aging process.

Special keynote speakers were William Gaventa, Director of Community and Congregational Supports at The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities in New Jersey and Jeffrey Kauffman, author of the “Guidebook on Helping Persons with Mental Retardation Mourn.”

Gaventa’s specialties include developmental disabilities, spiritual supports, and community supports as well as coordinating a training and technical assistance team for the New Jersey Self-Directed Supports Project. As writer and author, he is the co-editor of the Journal of Religion Disability and Health, editor of two newsletters and a columnist for Insight, the national newsletter of the Arc of the United States.

Kauffman is a psychotherapist who more than 20 years ago began developing therapeutic treatment approaches for the losses that exist in the intellectual disabilities community, and multi-dimensional models for agencies and families to respond to these diverse losses. He is a noted author and speaker on these issues and provides training for professionals and families. In 2005, he published the “Guidebook for Helping People with Mental Retardation Mourn.” He has taught on the faculty at Bryn Mawr College, Widener University Center for Social Work Education, King’s University College and the University of Western Ontario.

Other speakers were on hand to cover topics of aging, applied research, legal issues, family perspectives and ethics.

The conference held lectures that summarized aging and end of life as opportunities for community building, identified fundamental aspects of the aging process, described processes and outcomes of pilot grief group intervention research, described family considerations about financial planning and conservatorships and examined strategies associated with mourning and coping with loss.

For more information, please contact BCDD at (901) 448-6511.
Residents Win Jeopardy Competition

On October 14, two residents from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga Surgery Residency Program joined the Chattanooga Surgery Team as they won the national Surgical Jeopardy competition at the American College of Surgeons Annual Clinical Congress in Chicago, Ill. Jeff Horn, MD, chief resident and Heath Giles, MD, PGY-5 level senior resident, represented the 31-resident surgery program in Chattanooga.

During a special-interest section of the event, Drs. Horn and Giles competed against 23 other resident teams from across the country, including Brown University, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Medical College of Georgia, and the University of Florida, in a jeopardy-style competition. Surgical Jeopardy includes multidisciplinary questions and topics that are covered on Surgery Board certifying and recertification exams. Drs. Horn and Giles faced off in the final round against teams from Good Samaritan Hospital (in Cincinnati, Ohio), the Medical College of Wisconsin, and the University of Rochester. The Chattanooga team scored 8,500 points, besting the nearest competitor by more than 2,900 points.

"It was exhilarating to watch the surgical intelligence of Drs. Giles and Horn and the manner in which they completely dominated the 23 other teams from around the country in this national competition," said Dr. Joseph B. Cofer, professor in the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga Department of Surgery and program director of its Surgery Residency.

"It's not only a testament to their hard work, but the quality of surgical residents participating in the Department of Surgery Residency at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga."

"When the results of the victory were tallied, we were both just overjoyed and very proud," said Dr. Horn. "We battled some big name programs and it just showed what a great education Dr. Giles and I have received here in Chattanooga."

The American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress is the premier annual surgical meeting that provides a vast array of educational and networking opportunities. It is designed to provide physicians with a wide range of learning opportunities that will match their educational and professional development needs, and offer opportunities to gain knowledge that will aid in patient care.

Contributions Collected for Haiti Relief

The Memphis campus of UTHSC raised more than $10,875 in just a few days for relief efforts in Haiti. More than $10,100 was raised during a one-day fundraising drive on January 15. Faculty, staff and students brought cash and checks to three different main campus locations between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Before 5 p.m. on the 15th all of the funds were delivered to the local Red Cross office. During the following week, money continued to arrive from team members who were off campus or couldn't participate on the 15th. Another $765 in cash and checks was donated to the Red Cross from UTHSC on January 22.

UT Cancer Institute (UCI) raised nearly $6,890 for Haiti relief efforts in January, most through payroll deductions. With nearly 200 employees in 10 locations throughout Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, UCI is a unique partnership between the UT Health Science Center and Boston Baskin Cancer Group. It is the Mid-South's largest cancer physicians group.

Grants cont. from page 15

Robert Kiesges, PhD
NIH-National Cancer Institute
"Predictors of Smokeless Tobacco and Dual Use in the U.S. Military"
$626,193

Michael McDonald, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Aging
"ARRA-Chronic Sialidase Effects on Amyloid Aggregation and Associated Pathology"
$484,452

NIH-National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
"ARRA-GD3S Knockdown to Improve Cognitive and Motor Deficits in Models of Parkinsonism"
$156,420

Arnold Postlethwaite, MD
NIH-National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease
"ARRA-Chronic Sleep Restriction Increases Immunity to Autoantigen: Role of the SNS"
$427,268

Burt Sharp, MD
NIH-National Institute on Drug Abuse
"ARRA-Neuron-Specific Candidates Gene Expression and Adolescent Vulnerability to Smoking"
$1,441,300

Robert Shreve, EdD
NIH-National Center for Research Resources
"ARRA-Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy"
$181,903

Ted Strom, MD, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
"Determination of a Mechanism for the Thrombocytopenia of WAS"
$182,500

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
"ARRA-Preclinical Development of a GI Radiation Countermeasure"
$1,244,950

Holiday Party Sparks a Spirit of Giving

On December 11 and 15, UTHSC held its annual Campus Holiday Celebration in the SAC Dining Hall. Employees enjoyed refreshments, games, entertainment and prizes while they mixed and mingled with individuals from various departments. The celebration also created an opportunity to assist others. Toys and clothing were donated to the Relative CareGiver Program at the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities.
The Record

Students Volunteer During Convention

On September 10 and 11, UTHSC students, faculty and staff participated in the National Baptist Convention’s health fair at the Orange Mound Community Center. The Health Science Center provided diabetes study information, health screenings, dental screenings and family health history materials.

Grad Student Wins AAPS Award

In November Lin Zhu, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was awarded the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists’ Graduate Symposium Award in Biotechnology during the Annual Meeting and Exposition. Several awards were given to graduate students to commemorate students’ contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences.

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) is a professional, scientific society of approximately 12,000 members employed in academia, industry, government and other research institutes worldwide.

To learn more about AAPS, please visit www.aapspharmaceutica.com.

In November Lin Zhu, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was awarded the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists’ Graduate Symposium Award in Biotechnology during the Annual Meeting and Exposition. Several awards were given to graduate students to commemorate students’ contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences.

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) is a professional, scientific society of approximately 12,000 members employed in academia, industry, government and other research institutes worldwide.

To learn more about AAPS, please visit www.aapspharmaceutica.com.

Never giving up on your dream is the key to pursuing any career goal one has in mind to accomplish, no matter your age. Charles H. Fraga, a 46-year-old College of Medicine student, embodies the determination for pursuing his career in medicine after 20 years in scientific research. His decision to change careers and enroll in medical school came from the feeling of something missing from his professional career. “I was able to gain some clarity during my time at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Then my tenure at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital really gave me the clinical exposure that I needed to identify the missing component was direct patient care.”

His time volunteering at the Church Health Center’s Hope and Healing and working with children at St. Jude helped him take that leap of faith. “Children are amazingly resilient, we can all learn from them. No matter what life deals them, they live for the moment, they don’t get caught up in anticipating the end. I learned that our time here is better spent striving and reaching goals that enable us to do what we are passionate about. For me that is medicine.”

The UTHSC College of Medicine program was Fraga’s top choice because of its reputation for the amount of clinical experience received by students. “I was impressed by the caliber of people that were accepted, not only academically, but most importantly their overwhelming personalities and diverse backgrounds, which convinced me that UTHSC was my first choice.” His adjustment to being one of the oldest students in his class and adjusting to school has a progressive challenge. “Adjusting to the course load and computerized testing has been the hardest part.” However, with Student Academic Support Services, his challenges have now been his stepping stone.

Fraga was greatly influenced by Drs. Kenneth Vanderpool and Theodore K. Gartner, both professors who helped him realize the true possibility and that the only limitations that a person has are those they put on themselves. He was also influenced by the experiences and opportunities he gained from St. Jude and will be forever indebted.

Fraga’s career background includes positions as a senior research laboratory technician, research specialist, supervisor and research engineer. Before enrolling at UTHSC, started as supervisor of the pharmacokinetics laboratory and most recently he was a research laboratory specialist. His duties included working with principle investigators to develop antibodies, IHC methodologies and initial work up of new antibodies for the determination of key histopathologic markers of specific brain tumors. His expertise also allowed him to independently conduct literature reviews and assist in several manuscripts. He also served as a mentor to a number of graduate and undergraduate students who studied at St. Jude.

Fraga holds a bachelor’s degree in microbiology and master’s in anatomy/molecular biology from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo.

His advice to other adults seeking a career change or professional growth. “Don’t ever count yourself out. We are living longer than ever before, there is plenty of time for two careers. Surround yourself with positive, supportive people and spend some time volunteering. These are great times that we live in and the possibilities are limitless.”

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
Never Too Late to Pursue a Dream

Charles H. Fraga
**A Special Nursing White Coat Ceremony**

On October 19 the College of Nursing held the MSN-CNL Professional Entry Program White Coat Ceremony. This inaugural celebration allowed 57 students to take the International Nurses Pledge, which will start the path that leads to their clinical rotations. It reinforces the responsibility of professionalism and patient care. The keynote speaker was Michael Briley, DNP – Family Nursing Practice from the 1996 graduating class.

The ceremony was special to the hearts of this class. On December 21, 26-year-old Chaundra Sanders passed away in a fatal car accident. Chaundra was a native Memphian who received her Bachelors of Science degree in Biology from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. She made a decision to join the health care industry and entered the MSN-CNL program to start her career in nursing. She took the International Nurses Pledge with the rest of her class and will be remembered throughout the campus for her smile and warm personality.

**CON Fall 2009 Graduation**

On December 11, the UTHSC College of Nursing graduated 103 students in the BSN, MSN, PhD and DNP programs at Lindenwood Christian Church. John C. Preston, CRNA, DNSc and senior director of Education and Professional Development, served as commencement speaker. The December graduation represented the last graduating class of the BSN program. The faculty staff and students took pride in celebrating the graduates.

**10 Win Textbook Support**

Covering the cost of textbooks can be a serious expense for college students. When the UTHSC and Barnes & Noble (B&N) reopened our campus bookstore, which B&N operates, 10 lucky students each won a $400 certificate to be used for textbooks or classroom supplies. The winning students are:

- David Lazarus - Medicine
- Brandesha Nelson - Nursing
- Anas Damiri - Pharmacy
- Casey Cannon - Allied Health/Physical Therapy
- Rachel Hunter - Pharmacy
- Shannon McIvor - Allied Health
- Rosalyn McCormick - Pharmacy
- Jennifer Weaver - Nursing
- Ronisha Turner - Nursing
- Elisheva Reese - Nursing

**CDE Reaccreditation Successful**

The UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville earned national reaccreditation from the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) for its continuing dental education programs. The standing, approved by the AGD Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE), extends through December 2013.

The reaccreditation allows the Graduate School of Medicine to continue to provide certified national and regional programs that offer continuing dental education credits through the AGD.

“The reaccreditation demonstrates that the Graduate School of Medicine is committed to learning, being a catalyst for quality improvement in health care and managing education programs professionally,” said James Neutens, PhD, FASHA, Dean.

National PACE provider approval is awarded when the provider offers courses in more than one state; draws a significant number of participants from more than one state; offers self-instruction programs; and offers protocol-participation courses. PACE-approved providers must adhere to 13 standards, addressing administration, fiscal responsibility, needs assessment, patient protection, evaluation and more. Additionally, approved providers must offer quality continuing education that helps professionals achieve AGD’s Fellowship (FAGD) and Mastership (MAGD) awards.

For information about continuing dental education programs at the Graduate School of Medicine, contact Communications and Outreach at CME@utmck.edu or (865) 305-9190.

**Leading by Example**

University of Tennessee Health Science Center leaders, Steve Schwab (center), interim chancellor, and Kennard Brown (right), executive vice chancellor and chief of staff, prepare to take H1N1 flu shots. The shots were given by Stephan Foster (left), UTHSC professor and vice chair for Clinical Pharmacy. The leaders encourage everyone to take the shots for their protection.
The UTHSC shares a common bond with the City of Memphis administration -- the desire to serve and protect the community. In support of the city's efforts to keep our neighborhoods safe, on October 9 the Health Science Center co-sponsored a celebration in honor of the Memphis Police Department's personnel and Director Larry Godwin (right) for their accomplishments in reducing crime in Memphis over the past two years. Dr. Ken Brown (left) joined Mayor AC Wharton and employees, government officials, family and friends to celebrate the success. The event was a "come and go" appreciation luncheon that included BBQ, children's activities, a recognition program and live entertainment.

The most recent billboard is located at Union and Manassas, from the UTHSC "Right Here in Memphis" ad campaign. Since the campaign’s launch in February 2009, it has increased traffic to the UTHSC Web site by routing more than 126,000 additional visitors to the site through clicking on online ads. Overall traffic to the home page is 5.5% higher than from this same period in 2008.

On November 13, the Alpha Omega Alpha Beta TN Chapter held the 2009 UTHSC-St. Jude Research Lectureship. The event included a UTHSC medical student research poster session. This year’s speaker was James R. Downing, MD, scientific director, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital; associate director of Basic Research, Cancer Center; co-leader, Hematological Malignancies Program and director, Molecular Pathology Laboratory. Dr. Downing presented “The Molecular Pathology of Acute Leukemia” to the medical students and researchers who gathered for the event. Owen Phillips, MD (left), assistant dean for Student Affairs and associate chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology welcomed Dr. Downing for the lectureship.

On November 17, the UT Dental Hygiene Urban Smiles program assisted the "Grizz" and Memphis Grizzlies center Steven Hunter in passing out Thanksgiving baskets to families of children attending St. Patrick Elementary School, one of the city's jubilee schools.

Dr. Slominski recently traveled to Poland where he received the "Order of Polonia Restituta" award (Order of Poland Reborn) for anti-communist and pro-democracy activity during the 1970s and early 80s. The award was established on February 4, 1921, and is one of Poland’s highest Orders. Lech Kaczynski, President of the Republic of Poland, presented the award. Dr. Slominski noted how honored he was to receive such a prestigious and personally meaningful award. He also expressed his great pleasure at visiting with former President Walesa, a leader and activist of international stature. Walesa is a Polish politician and a former trade union and human rights activist. He co-founded Solidarity, the Soviet bloc’s first independent trade union, won the Nobel Peace Price in 1983 and served as President of Poland from 1990 to 1995.