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Warm Welcome Set for Chancellor

On Thursday, September 9, approximately 50 alumni, special friends of UTHSC and leaders from the Memphis business community joined a celebratory reception for new UTHSC Chancellor Steve J. Schwab, MD. UT Interim President Jan Simek also participated in the early evening event, held at Windyke Country Club in East Memphis.

“I wanted very much to come and officially welcome Steve into the position he has been in for a good period of time,” President Simek said. “The national search that we initiated for the UTHSC chancellor’s position, while Steve was acting in the interim role, brought in a number of well-qualified candidates from across the country, and in the end, the very best candidate was Steve Schwab – the person who was already in the position. He demonstrated incredible devotion and commitment as the interim chancellor during a time when higher education across the state has worked through one of the most difficult times in its history.

“The choices Steve has had to make were very difficult but they were exactly the right choices to make,” President Simek continued. “His approach to the chancellor’s role has shown a great deal of integrity and it’s clear he has a grand vision for the Health Science Center both here in Memphis and across the state. His leadership and impressive work with health care partners across the state confirms that he is clearly the right choice for the job. I know we all wish him many years of great success.”

Neuroscience Institute Fellowships

The UT Neuroscience Institute awarded the 2010-2011 Merit Fellowships for Undergraduate Neuroscience Research to three area students, who worked in UTHSC labs this summer.

Rachel Chassen of Rhodes College, Rachael Haag of Christian Brothers University and Christine Petrin, of Columbia University were selected based on their academic excellence and strong interest in neuroscience.

Chassen worked with Lawrence Reiter, PhD, in Neurology, studying genes related to autism and autism spectrum disorders. Haag worked with Tonia Rex, PhD, in Ophthalmology. Dr. Rex is currently working to develop safe and effective gene therapies for retinal degenerations. Petrin was paired with Charles Leffer, PhD, in Physiology and Biophysics, who studies newborn cardiovascular regulation, with particular emphasis on control of cerebral circulation.

For more information, please visit http://www.uthsc.edu/neuroscience/news.php.

UTHSC Raises Nearly $7,000 for Pakistan Relief

UTHSC has raised nearly $7,000 to support the millions of flood victims in Pakistan. Nearly $3,000 was raised during a six-hour fundraising drive on the main campus of the Health Science Center. UTHSC faculty, staff and students brought cash and checks to the General Education Building.

UT Cancer Institute (UTCI), which is a part of UTHSC, raised more than $4,000 for Pakistan relief efforts over the course of four days, all through payroll deductions. With nearly 200 employees in 10 locations throughout Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, UTCI is a unique partnership between the UT Health Science Center and Boston Baskin Cancer Group. This singular association combines the research and teaching capabilities of a leading institution of higher learning with the patient care of the Mid-South’s largest cancer physicians group.

“The faculty, students and staff of the Health Science Center are committed to making a difference. That’s what the health care professions are all about,” said UTHSC Chancellor Steve J. Schwab, MD.
Commitment, Concern Exudes Through Donation

The Mid-South Lions Sight & Hearing Service donated $150,000 to the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) during a check presentation and reception in July.

The donation was the second installment of a $300,000 contribution from the Mid-South Lions. The funds will support the Lions Low Vision Center, which was established at the HEI with the group’s initial 2007 donation. The additional aid will extend services to a waiting list of 170 disadvantaged patients needing eye surgeries.

“We are grateful for the Lions’ support and will continue working together to increase the number of indigent patients served,” said James C. Fleming, MD, FACS, Philip M. Lewis Professor and vice chair of Ophthalmology at UTHSC. Dr. Fleming also directs The Orbit Center, a service at the HEI to treat orbital disease and trauma.

Other community leaders in attendance included Brad Baker, CEO of the Mid-South Lions Sight & Hearing Service.

“Because of HEI’s amazing clinicians, sight is being restored to many in need,” Baker said, adding, “Mid-South Lions members are committed to exploring future projects with the institute’s leadership.”

Earlier this year, Barrett Haik, MD, FACS, Hamilton Professor and chair of Ophthalmology at UTHSC, and director of HEI, was inducted into the L. B. Baker Hall of Fame, the highest honor awarded by the Mid-South Lions. Dr. Haik earned the honor for what the Lions describe as “his untiring efforts to improve the lives of patients with sight problems.”

Since 1942, Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service has been restoring quality and independence to the lives of men, women and children affected by preventable sight loss and hearing loss. The organization uses a comprehensive approach to assisting indigent patients with costly medical services. Strategies include partnering with foundations, businesses and medical organizations. Currently, the Mid-South Lions offices are located at HEI.

Phillips Named Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving

UTHSC announced that Kris Phillips has been named associate vice chancellor for Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving. Phillips’ appointment became effective on August 9.

A UT system veteran, Phillips served for 10 years as director of Alumni Programs for the UT Alumni Association based in Knoxville. His primary responsibilities included managing all affinity marketing programs for UTAA including the Affinity Card Program, Tennessee Travelers (international tours), Traveling Vols (athletic tours), alumni directory (print/CD Rom and online), and the alumni discount insurance program. Phillips also managed sponsorships for the UTAA, and the Big Orange Tailgate Tour, a pre-game tailgate program for football and men’s and women’s basketball. From 2008 to 2009, he served a dual role with the UTAA and as interim assistant vice chancellor for Alumni Affairs at UTHSC.

A 1991 graduate of Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., Phillips served his alma mater in various positions in the admissions and alumni/development offices including director of Alumni and Annual Giving prior to joining the UT staff. He is an active member of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, serving on the group’s District III (Southeast) board of directors. Phillips and his wife Tammy have been married for 17 years and have two teenage sons.
Partnership cont. from page 1

physicians are devoted to cutting-edge research related to children’s health, and education of the next generation of pediatric physicians and surgeons.

The ULPS structure will also allow the children’s hospital and the university to jointly recruit highly trained, highly sought-after pediatric specialists to Memphis.

“This concept will allow us to recruit the best and brightest to Memphis to care for our children,” said Le Bonheur President and CEO Meri Armour. “We are working hard to cultivate pediatric thought leaders and experts to expand the capabilities of both Le Bonheur and UTHSC.”

All physicians in the UT Le Bonheur Pediatric Specialists group will be UTHSC faculty members. The group will be governed by an 11-member board of directors including the practicing physicians. A chief executive officer will be recruited to lead the practice.

The practice will be in place by January 1, 2011, and has been presented to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and the Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare Board of Directors. ULPS will be the Mid-South’s only multi-specialty pediatric group practice solely focused on children’s health. Substantial growth is expected in this practice both from local and national sources.

“We see closer alignments with our health care partners across the state as an essential element in our ability to expand our educational offerings and increase our ability to serve the state and region,” Chancellor Schwab said.

“UT Health Science Center is already the state’s leading purveyor of health care trainees in a variety of fields – medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, nursing and allied health professions. To expand our educational capacity and improve the opportunities for health care trainees at partner institutions, we will work in close collaboration with our partners.”

Founded in 1952, Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital is the Mid-South’s first and only comprehensive pediatric medical facility. Every year Le Bonheur treats almost 140,000 children from across the country and throughout the world. Le Bonheur is home to one of the nation’s 10 busiest pediatric emergency departments and hosts one of the largest pediatric surgical brain tumor programs.

In June 2010, Le Bonheur celebrated completion of a new state-of-the-art hospital. The $340-million facility will significantly increase the space for patient care, research and teaching. For more information, please call (901) 287-6030 or visit www.lebonheur.org.

In Chattanooga

The Erlanger Health System, in partnership with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, has created a new physician practice plan called the UT-Erlanger Medical Group. The formation of this multi-specialty physician group, approved by Erlanger trustees, will include more than 150 physicians and mid-level providers.

Physicians in the newly formed UT-Erlanger Medical Group represent a wide range of medical expertise, from both adult and pediatric specialties.

In addition to providing health care for all ages, members of the UT-Erlanger Medical Group will continue to focus on medical research and educating future medical specialists.

David Seaberg, MD, dean of the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga at Erlanger, noted the new UT-Erlanger Medical Group “will finally align the clinical strategic vision of the Erlanger Health System with the academic mission and strategic direction of the university.”

Dr. Seaberg went on to enumerate the benefits, noting that the plan “will strengthen the partnership between the university and the Erlanger Health System, provide stability for the physicians in the practice, enhance the efficiency of the clinical practices and, most importantly, provide better patient care for the greater Chattanooga community.”

The Erlanger Health System has five Tennessee-based medical campuses, including the region’s only children’s hospital and Level 1 Trauma Center, providing the highest level of trauma care. Affiliated with the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Chattanooga, Erlanger is also the region’s only academic teaching center and treats more than a quarter million patients every year.

Pharmacy cont. from page 1

Research – CHEER – in a significant number of ongoing projects that focus on minority health. This collaboration will result in even greater success working with underrepresented students, faculty and staff, while improving educational, informational and curricular activities related to minority health concerns.”

He anticipates that a more intensive focus on minority health issues through the COE will also lead to an increase in research that includes underrepresented minority patient populations, and an increase in clinical training opportunities for students in the provision of health services to underrepresented minority patients.

The College of Pharmacy has received two previous COE awards in 1992-1994 and 2003-2007. These funds supported the college’s transformation into one of the nation’s leading colleges in the recruitment and graduation of underrepresented minority students.

The funding also played an important role in the development of underrepresented minority faculty through support of advanced educational opportunities at the College of Pharmacy, such as postdoctoral graduate, fellowship and residency programs.

The College of Pharmacy student body boasts 22.8 percent underrepresented minority students, including 16.1 percent African-Americans. The college has recruited and retained talented underrepresented minority faculty members and is producing strong minority faculty candidates from its own student body.

Founded in 1898, the UT College of Pharmacy is the first pharmacy school established in Tennessee and is ranked 16th out of 115 pharmacy colleges in the nation (April 2010 U.S. News & World Report).

With more than 5,600 graduates, the UT College of Pharmacy has major campus locations in Memphis and Knoxville, and Clinical Education Centers in Chattanooga, Kingsport and Nashville. Additionally, the college has more than 60 sites across the state for students to gain experience through community practice and residency, clinical rotation, and institutional practice and residency.

The economic impact of the UT College of Pharmacy is estimated at $56 million through licensing technologies and discoveries that fuel the biotech industry in the Mid-South region.
Safety Awareness Month Sparks Reflections

Corporal Constance Lake, UT Campus Police special events coordinator, and Sergeant Beverly Avis are well aware of the safety needs of the UTHSC campus. They both have played an integral role in the department’s safety plan that has evolved tremendously over the past several years.

Each year since 2005, colleges and universities across the United States have recognized September as National Campus Safety Awareness Month.

The UTHSC Campus Police Department marks September as a time to reflect on their commitment to protect and serve the campus community by evaluating their ongoing process to keep the campus safe. They have spent the last five years developing a plan of action that beefed up security and cut down on campus crime. This has been evident and many have taken notice.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) recently released its 2009 report on campus crime and it showed an increase in crime from 2008 to 2009 of 9.2 percent. While that number seems high, the crime right here at the Health Science Center was down for that period.

In fact, crime decreased 57 percent from 2008 to 2009 and according the Reno Greganti, deputy chief of Campus Police, “we are sticking to that trend for 2010 with fewer crimes reported at this time last year,” he said.

The overall reported thefts were reduced from 91 in 2008 to 52 in 2009. Since 2005 the department has made a lot of notable changes.

“We have locked down almost all of the buildings on campus with either card reader access or a security officer at a fixed post. We have increased our patrol cars from three to five marked units and have two unmarked units. We have three T-3’s (three wheeled electric vehicles). We have 23 security officers on staff with three openings and 25 police officers with one opening,” Deputy Chief Greganti said.

UTHSC has partnered with the city for additional security. The Memphis Police Department has placed a COACT unit on campus adding nine additional police officers to the campus area. All of this has resulted in a greatly reduced violent crime rate, as well as, a great reduction of reported thefts.

“Additionally, we have a new memo of understanding with the Memphis Police Department, which allows us to share information regarding crimes on or around the campus, on a daily basis,” noted Ida Upchurch, chief of Campus Police.

“Also, we have a new crime prevention training officer who develops educational programs which are distributed in the form of seminars and training sessions,” Chief Upchurch said. Sergeant Nefertoria Harris is responsible for providing crime prevention information to all new hires during orientation, as well as all new student orientations.

The Campus Police Department is a member of the Medical Center Security Committee, which is comprised of security administration from Methodist University Hospital, LeBonheur Children’s Hospital, The MED, Southern College of Optometry, Southwest Tennessee Community College, criminologists from the University of Memphis, representatives from the Center City Commission, the Memphis Police Department and the Memphis Bioworks Foundation. Information, statistics, and strategies to combat crime are discussed and exchanged during bi-monthly meetings, which are held at 740 Court.

The UTHSC campus boasts a current population of approximately 6,900 faculty, staff, and students. As in all communities, public safety, crime, and the loss of property are a daily concern.

For more information about the Campus Police Department or tips on how to remain safe in the campus community, please visit http://www.uthsc.edu/campuspolice/.
Many individuals do great work in the medical community. On August 27, more than 500 guests gathered to help the Methodist Healthcare Foundation recognize individuals for their commitment in the community to the healing mission of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and for their faith-based initiatives. The 29th Annual Living Awards Benefit, held at the Peabody Hotel, honored several individuals who are connected to UTHSC. The honorees were:

- Barbara H. Hamilton for Inspiration in Faith and Health
- S. Douglas Hixson, MD, for Physician Inspiration in Faith and Health
- Jon H. Robertson, MD, for Physician Inspiration in Faith and Health
- Gordon J. Kraus, MD, and Haiti Medical Missions of Memphis for Community Inspiration in Faith and Health
- The Maua Methodist Hospital, Maua, Kenya, for National and International Inspiration in Faith and Health

Barbara Hamilton, wife of UTHSC’s Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, is known for her keen sense of humor, caring attitude, and spirit of giving. For more than 41 years, Mrs. Hamilton has been a volunteer at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. Their combined generosity was instrumental in the construction of the UT Hamilton Eye Institute. Her generosity also helped build the chapel at Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown Hospital and laid the foundation for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare’s Center of Excellence in Faith and Health.

Ask about Doug Hixson, MD, and you will learn about an amazing, truly inspiring human being. He is a revered surgeon among his colleagues and is well known for being a strong advocate for families and children, and for epitomizing patient- and family-centered care.

Dr. Hixson is currently the medical director of perioperative services at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital. He also is the senior member of Pediatric Surgical Group, which serves as the teaching practice of the UTHSC Division of Pediatric Surgery.

“I realize that the meaning of this award is an expression of affection,” Dr. Hixson said.

He received his medical degree from UT College of Medicine in 1973 and completed his residencies in general surgery at UT and in pediatric general surgery at the Children’s Hospital of Michigan in Detroit before returning to Memphis in 1981.

World-renowned neurosurgeon, Jon Robertson, MD, is highly respected and admired as a master neurosurgeon. Dr. Robertson attended the UT College of Medicine in 1971 and completed his residency in neurosurgery at UTHSC in 1979.

“I am truly humbled that the selection committee selected me as a Living Awards recipient,” Dr. Robertson said. “It’s not about us teaching. It’s really about mentoring them and guiding them [students].”

In addition to being chair of the UTHSC Department of Neurosurgery, he maintains an active practice with Semmes-Murphey Neurologic and Spine Institute. He has been president of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Society of University Neurosurgeons, and the North American Skull Base Society.

Former patients consider Dr. Robertson as one of the blessings in their lives. He is known to spend countless hours listening to patients’ concerns and going over their results until they understand their diagnosis. If requested, Dr. Robertson prays with his patients and their families.

Gordon J. Kraus, MD, a native Memphian who earned his medical degree from UTHSC and entered private practice as an internist in 1984, demonstrates a steadfast dedication to helping those in need.

“I am honored to be one of the individuals receiving this award,” Dr. Kraus said.

About 12 years ago, he went on a medical mission trip with the Church of the Holy Spirit to Haiti. After returning several times, he helped create Haiti Medical Missions of Memphis.

In 2001, the organization decided to build a permanent clinic there. The clinic survived the catastrophic earthquake this January and became a center for relief aid. It was the focal point for the relief team sent from Le Bonheur and continues to provide free medical care for Haitians.

Another facility that continues to provide relief to those who are suffering is the Maua Methodist Hospital in Maua, Kenya. In 1928 British Methodist missionaries founded the hospital. The hospital’s Giving Hope Program provides community support in a number of ways.

Le Bonheur Changes Opening Date

Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital’s newly-built, 240-bed hospital, which was scheduled to open in early September will now open in December. The $340 million hospital held its grand opening on June 15 and patients will begin transitioning from the old facility to the new hospital on December 4-5.

The reason for the delay is to allow staff time for training in the new facility.
Heart Hospital Graces Frontiers Magazine Cover

The new University of Tennessee Medical Center Heart Hospital is not just an example of intelligent architecture. More importantly, it demonstrates an academic medical center at its best: teams comprising physicians, nurses and staff providing unparalleled services and accessing the best technology dedicated to the care of cardiovascular disease.

A special edition of Frontiers magazine gives an inside look at the new facility and highlights cardiac intensive care; lung and respiratory diseases; fellowships; and cardiac and vascular diseases. It also features intensive research at the UT Graduate School of Medicine that explores the relationship between hormone replacement therapy and outcomes after vascular interventions in women.

The opening of the University of Tennessee Medical Center’s Heart Hospital is not only combating Tennessee’s number one killer, cardiovascular disease, but it is also bolstering Graduate School of Medicine fellowship programs.

The Heart Hospital is designed to optimize patient outcomes by following evidence-based clinical pathways. The American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association found that dedicated heart hospitals following appropriate clinical guidelines saw improved outcomes in 20 percent of heart surgery cases and improved care processes in 90 percent of cases.

Program Directors Dale Wortham, MD, Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship; Tina Dudney, MD, Pulmonary Disease Fellowship; and Michael Freeman, MD, Vascular Surgery Fellowship, agree that the Heart Hospital provides further opportunities for fellows to meet the core competencies as outlined by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, including patient care, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism and systems-based practice.

Dr. Wortham said, “The Heart Hospital cardiovascular critical care units have large individual rooms. Families sleep in these rooms with the patient. This is an excellent educational opportunity for the fellows to learn to interact with patients and families.”

The Heart Hospital currently includes 24 private cardiovascular intensive care units equipped with computers and monitoring equipment on a movable track. The units are also connected to existing operating rooms and cardiac catheterization labs.

The facility, which will include an information desk, conference center, and an enlarged UT Graduate School of Medicine Preston Medical Library, is already gaining attention among prospective fellows.

UTHSC’s Heroes Recognized

Real heroes – the kind that not only save lives, but also make the quality of life better for the citizens of their city and beyond – were the focus of the 12th Annual Health Care Heroes Awards ceremony on September 2.

Most of these heroes, including the Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Andrew Kang, MD, were health care professionals from the UT Health Science Center.

Dr. Kang, Emeritus Goodman Chair of Medicine, has a career in medical research that spans almost 50 years. He came to UTHSC from Harvard Medical School in 1970 to continue his research in rheumatology, mentor rising medical professionals, and treat patients at the Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

“Whatever I have been able to do is because of the enthusiastic support of colleagues, fellows and trainees who have joined me in this search for a treatment of arthritis,” Dr. Kang stated with appreciation. “I would also like to thank UT and the VA for providing a place for me to do research.”

Many other UTHSC heroes received recognition as both finalists and winners in the local awards program, which is organized by the Memphis Business Journal.

Finalists nominated by UTHSC included: Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief of staff, for Administrative Excellence; Christopher Knott-Craig, MD, professor and chief of pediatric cardiovascular surgery at UTHSC and co-director of the Pediatric Cardiac Surgical Institute at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital, for Health Care Innovations; and Kimberly Lamar, PhD, MPH, assistant professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and coordinator of The Blues Project, for Health Care Provider Non-Physician. Lacey Smith, MD, interim dean of the College of Medicine, Memphis, was also a finalist for the Administrative Excellence Award for his work as chief medical officer and executive vice president at UT Medical Group, Inc.

Health Care Heroes Award winners that have affiliation with UTHSC, as well as with the partner institutions, which nominated them, included: Sarwat Salim, MD, who is the director of glaucoma service at UTMG and an associate professor in the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology. Dr. Salim won for Community Outreach for her efforts to treat and prevent blindness caused by glaucoma.

The Health Care Innovations Award winner was William Cushman, MD, Chief of Preventive Medicine at the VA and professor in the UTHSC Department of Preventive Medicine. Dr. Cushman was recognized for his extensive research for treating hypertension and diabeties.

B. Keith English, MD, chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Le Bonheur and professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC, was the winner of the Health Care Provider Physician Award. The pediatric infectious disease doctor was noted for his expertise that helped both physicians and citizens during the H1N1 influenza epidemic in 2009.
UTHSC Hosts Bluff City Memorial Lecture

On October 1, the Bluff City Medical Society and UTHSC organized the Seventh Annual Bluff City Memorial Lecture, “Health Care Disparities in Underserved Communities,” at the Peabody Hotel. This year’s lecture was Elder Granger, MD; president and CEO, THE 5Ps, LLC; former deputy director, TRICARE Management Activity and retired Major General, U.S. Army.

In July 2009, after 37 years of military service, Major General Elder Granger, retired as the deputy director of the TRICARE Management Activity, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), Washington, D.C. In this role he served as the principal advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) on Department of Defense health plan policy and performance.

Prior to joining TRICARE Management Activity, Dr. Granger led the largest U.S. and multinational battlefield health system in our recent history while serving as commander, Task Force 44 Medical Command and command surgeon for the Multinational Corps Iraq. He has led at every level of the Army Medical Department.

Dr. Granger began his career with the Army Medical Department in 1971 as a combat medic in the U.S. Army National Guard. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Arkansas State University in 1976.

A distinguished military graduate, Dr. Granger was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Upon graduation from the University of Arkansas School of Medicine in 1980, he completed a residency in internal medicine in 1983 and a fellowship in hematology oncology in 1986 at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center.

Now Dr. Granger continues to advance his passion for patients and health care improvement through advising and supporting teams across the spectrum of health care. He and his wife Brenda live in Colorado.

Chesney Honored with Ira Greifer Award

On September 1, Russell Chesney, MD, professor and chair of Pediatrics received the Ira Greifer Award, the top honor bestowed by the International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA), during the 15th Congress of the IPNA held in New York, N.Y. Dr. Chesney is also an endowed professor who holds the Second Le Bonheur Chair of Excellence in Pediatrics.

The IPNA is recognizing him for the remarkable research he leads to improve the care of children with kidney disorders worldwide, and for his vision and leadership in educating and training future pediatric nephrologists. The IPNA is an alliance of the global community of pediatric nephrologists and selects recipients for the prestigious award every three years.

The award is named for Ira Greifer, MD, pediatrics professor at Yeshiva University’s Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, N.Y. Dr. Greifer is an internationally recognized leader in pediatric nephrology.

Dr. Chesney has practiced as a pediatric nephrology expert for 38 years. He has served as chair of the UTHSC Department of Pediatrics for the past 23 years. In this capacity, he leads a national pediatric nephrology research network, and is involved in teaching and patient care at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital and the Regional Medical Center at Memphis.

“Dr. Chesney’s record of research, clinical care and instruction has a tremendous impact on the prevention and treatment of kidney disease in children around the globe,” said Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD.

Dr. Chesney specializes in acute kidney failure, growth disorders, kidney disease, kidney transplant, Vitamin D deficiency, hypocalcemia, hypoparathyroidism, nephrotic syndrome, osteomalacia, rickets and renal osteodystrophy in children.

A graduate of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Dr. Chesney is married to P. Joan Chesney, MD, a distinguished expert in pediatric infectious disease. Although he has announced plans to step down from his role as chair of UTHSC Pediatrics, he will remain in that capacity until a new chair is selected.

First ‘Meet and Eat’ Brings PostDocs Together

As the fall semester began, the PostDoc Association welcomed its new members, and what better way to help them learn about one another and their diverse cultures, than to host a Meet and Eat.

PostDocs, faculty and staff gathered to sample more than 25 dishes representing different cultures that exist within the organization. During regular lunch hours, tables in the Student-Alumni Center were arranged into sections that held vegetables, pastas, meat, sea food, dessert and side dishes.

The Meet and Eat luncheon provided an opportunity to learn new information about the PostDoc Association, meet new officers and fellow members, embrace different cultures, share views and ideas, as well as interact with others – all while sampling and voting on several different cuisines ranging from seafood gumbo to sweet potato cobbler.

Towards the end of the event, attendees were able to vote for their favorite dish. The first place winner was Qiye Deng, PhD, (Pharmacology) who prepared a tofu dish. In second place was Luyuan Li, PhD, (Ophthalmology) who won for her homemade spring roll and Zoran Pivcevic, PhD, (Dental Research center) who prepared a dessert placed third.

The first Meet and Eat was such a success, the department plan to host another soon.
On November 3, the Cardiovascular-Renal Center at UTHSC will present the E. Eric Muirhead Hypertension Research Day in the North Auditorium of the Coleman Building. Hypertension Research Day started in 1987 as a symposium honoring Dr. E. Eric Muirhead to commemorate his numerous contributions to hypertension research and the medical community. It has now grown into an annual special event.

The program provides leading information in cardiovascular research, stimulates collaboration between laboratories at UTHSC and the institutions of the guest speakers, and leads to new ideas for research, treatment and drug design. This year, four outstanding speakers will present cutting-edge clinical and basic science lectures. Hypertension Research Day has been approved for Continuing Medical Education credit and is open to all health science professionals and students.

The Leonard Share Young Investigator Awards will also be presented during the symposium, one to a clinical fellow (MD) engaged in clinical or basic science research; and the other to a basic science fellow (PhD) with a maximum of two years postdoctoral research.

For Leonard Share Young Investigator Award application information, contact Michelle Lester in the Department of Physiology at (901) 448-2634, mlester@uthsc.edu, or visit http://hrd.uthsc.edu/.

Hypertension Research Day 2010 Speakers and Topics:
8 to 8:15 a.m. - Welcoming Remarks - Jonathan Jaggar, PhD, professor of Physiology and Hypertension Research Day Committee chair
8:15 to 9:00 a.m. – GRAND ROUNDS LECTURE – “A New Life for Mineralocorticoid Receptor Blockers” – presented by Nancy J. Brown, MD, Robert H. Williams professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, chief, Division of Clinical Pharmacology and associate dean, Clinical and Translational Scientist Development, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
9:15 to 10:00 a.m. – LEONARD SHARE LECTURE – “Molecular Genetics and Therapeutics of the Metabolic Syndrome” – presented by Theodore W. Kurtz, MD, professor and vice chair, Department of Laboratory Medicine, University of California, San Francisco
10:15 to 11:00 a.m. – E. ERIC MUIRHEAD LECTURE – “Body Fluid Volume and Its Distribution: Old and New Ideas on the Pathophysiology of Hypertension” – presented by Gregory D. Fink, PhD, professor of Pharmacology, Michigan State University
11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – UTHSC Lecture – “Cytochrome P450 and Hypertension” – presented by Kafait U. Malik, DSc, PhD, Department of Pharmacology, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Bowman Earns American Health Information Management Fellowship

Ona Bennett Anderson, PhD, dean for the College of Allied Health Sciences is proud to announce that Elizabeth D. Bowman, MPA, RHIA, FAHIMA, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

Bowman, a professor in the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management, is among an elite group of individuals to become a Fellow of AHIMA. The AHIMA boasts approximately 52,000 members nationwide, but fewer than 120 hold the prestigious designation. The Fellows Program recognizes sustained contributions to the field of health information management (HIM) and fosters collaboration among HIM professionals across the United States.

Bowman has served as a professor of Health Informatics and Information Management at UTHSC for 36 years. Among her contributions to the HIM field that AHIMA considered in her selection was her work in developing a model curriculum to be used by HIM educational programs nationwide. Additionally, she served as a commissioner and chair of the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education during its initial development. Bowman holds a bachelor’s degree from Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss., and a master’s in public administration from the University of Memphis.

Expertise in traditional and complex electronic health records systems is critical for the prompt delivery and payment of health care services. Thus, educators like Bowman are vital for preparing career seekers for the abundance of jobs emerging in HIM nationwide. The U.S. Department of Labor estimates a 49 percent job growth in health information and medical informatics through the year 2016.

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.
CHEER Holds First Disparities Conference on Food Scarcity

On July 30-31, CHEER hosted its first local conference, “Health in the City: A Fresh Take on Food,” to address health disparities in healthy eating and food access. The conference targeted Mid-Southerners who desire to make health a top priority.

In Memphis, poor diet and difficulty accessing healthy food choices often lead to health issues such as diabetes, hypertension and obesity. This conference informed participants on new ways to access healthy, affordable food that can improve and reduce hunger in the city.

Conference speakers represented a number of prestigious community organizations, public health and academic institutions, including Memphis Inter-Faith Alliance (MIFA), Memphis Food Bank, Healthy Memphis Common Table, Grow Memphis, Memphis and Shelby County Health Department and UTHSC.

The conference opened with a lecture and cooking demonstration by native Memphian, Bryant Terry. Terry is an eco chef, food justice activist and author of the critically acclaimed Vegan Soul Kitchen: Fresh, Health and Creative African-American Cuisine.

For the past 10 years he has worked to build a more just and sustainable food system and has used cooking as a tool to illuminate the intersections between poverty, structural racism and food insecurity. His interest in cooking, farming, and community health can be traced back to his childhood in Memphis, Tenn., where his grandparents inspired him to grow, prepare and appreciate good food.

“A problem in my community is a problem for me, whether I see it daily or not. We need to consider future conversations and recognize how our habits will impact our families in the future. I have hope that we can turn things around collectively,” Terry said.

Prior to the cooking demonstration, Terry lectured on the importance of eating healthy and preparing healthy food while conducting a live cooking demonstration.

On July 30, CHEER held a conference on food disparities that featured native Memphian Bryant Terry. Terry lectured on the importance of eating healthy and preparing healthy food while conducting a live cooking demonstration.

Two Nursing Professors, New Fellows

T wo UT Health Science Center nursing professors are among a distinguished list of 116 nurse leaders selected by the American Academy of Nursing to be inducted as Fellows into the organization.

Carol Thompson, DNP, APN, BC, professor and acute care option coordinator, and Mona Wicks, PhD, RN, professor and associate dean of research, will become Fellows of the Academy at its 37th Annual Meeting and Conference on November 13, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

This induction ceremony will mark the largest class of inductees since 2002.

“Selection for membership in the academy is one of the most prestigious honors in the field of nursing,” said academy President Catherine L. Gilliss, DNSc, RN, FAAN. “Academy Fellows are true experts. The Academy Fellowship represents the nation’s top nurse researchers, policymakers, scholars, executives and practitioners.”

Selection criteria includes evidence of significant contributions to nursing and health care, and each nominee must be sponsored by two current Academy Fellows. The new Fellows are chosen by a panel, and selection is based, in part, on the extent to which nominees’ nursing careers influence health policies and health care delivery for the benefit of all Americans.

New Fellows will be eligible to use the credentials FAAN (Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing) after their November induction.

New Campus Policies address HIPAA Security

UTHSC adopted new campus IT policies which affect HIPAA security compliance. This HIPAA Policy Addenda can be found at http://www.uthsc.edu/policies/w932_document_show.php?p=594.

HIPAA Security Rule implementation specifications are addressed in three administrative areas: Security Management, Policy and Procedure Documentation Requirements, and Security Incident Procedures. Also, implementation specifications in three technical areas are addressed: Access Control, Data Integrity, and Transmission Security. Note that encryption is required for Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI) stored on laptops, portable devices and portable media. This required encryption is implemented by using products whose vendors have obtained a certification of compliance with the FIPS 140-2 standard from NIST.

For questions or concerns about these policies or about valid encryption products, please contact Joe Morrison, HIPAA security officer at (901) 448-1774 or email to security@uthsc.edu.
Memphis is now offering an MBA degree with a pharmacy practice management concentration. This program is designed for current and future pharmacists who face the challenge of leading and managing large pharmacy operations, such as those in hospitals and community pharmacies, as a business enterprise.

Enrollment for the program started in the fall semester. Taken on a full-time or part-time basis, the 45-credit-hour program is designed for current and future pharmacists who face the challenge of leading and managing large pharmacy operations, such as those in hospitals and community pharmacies, as a business enterprise.

Of the 45 credit hours, 30 MBA courses are offered at the University of Memphis and 15 are offered at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). These include required and elective courses chosen from among Health Care Economics, Seminar in Human Resource Management, Self-Leadership for Executives, Pharmacoeconomics, Health Informatics and E-Health, and Strategies for Health Policy Formulation and Planning.

The 2010 Tennessee Pharmacy Association’s annual meeting was the perfect place to announce the new PharmD/MBA Program. Students, faculty, staff and several pharmacists were on hand at the Memphis Marriott Downtown in July to hear that the UTHSC College of Pharmacy in collaboration with the Fogelman College of Business and Economics of the University of Memphis is now offering an MBA degree with a pharmacy practice management concentration.

“It’s about time that blue and orange look good together,” Mark Gillenson, PhD, jokingly said before welcoming a crowd of more than 75 attendees. Dr. Gillenson is the director of MBA Programs in the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis.

For more information, visit www.memphis.edu/professionalmba.

Faculty Senate Elects New Officers

The gavel has been passed and a new year is ahead with the election of new officers to the UTHSC Faculty Senate. Richard Nollan, associate professor of Library Sciences, replaced Parker Suttle, PhD, associate professor of Pharmacology, as president for the 2010-2011 year. A new president-elect and secretary were also selected in the recent elections.

Dr. Suttle paved the way for Nollan to continue the success of the past year. The executive committee is composed of the elected officers of the Faculty Senate and at least one representative from each of the colleges or the equivalent. The primary duty of this elected member is representing the needs and point of view of that constituency on the executive committee.

The executive committee members attend scheduled meetings of the executive committee and Faculty Senate. Each representative is a liaison to a Faculty Senate standing committee. As a liaison, they participate in committee activities and make regular reports to the Executive Committee.

The 2010-2011 Faculty Senate officers are Richard Nollan, president; Parker Suttle, PhD, past president; Lawrence M. Brown, PhD president-elect; and Richard Smith, PhD, secretary-treasurer.

The UTHSC Child Care Program has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the nation’s leading organization of early childhood professionals.

“We’re proud to have earned the mark of quality from NAEYC, and to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards,” said Marsha Ewart, director of the UTHSC Child Care Program.

To earn NAEYC accreditation, the UTHSC Child Care Program went through an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against the 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria.

“NAEYC accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible,” Ewart said. “Our program provides care and developmentally appropriate educational activities for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.”

The program received NAEYC accreditation after an on-site visit by NAEYC assessors to ensure that the program meets each of the 10 program standards. NAEYC-accredited programs are also subject to unannounced visits during their accreditation, which lasts for five years.

In the 25 years since NAEYC accreditation was established, it has become a widely recognized sign of high-quality early childhood education. More than 7,000 programs are currently accredited by NAEYC – approximately 8 percent of all preschools and other early childhood programs.

“The NAEYC accreditation system raises the bar for child care centers and other early childhood programs,” said Jerjean E. Daniel, PhD, executive director of NAEYC.

“Having earned NAEYC accreditation is a sign that the UTHSC Child Care Program is a leader in a national effort to invest in high-quality early childhood education.”

For more information about NAEYC accreditation, visit www.naeyc.org/academy.
ftertimes when state or federal organizations plan to improve health care for their residents, they fail to include feedback from those individuals who it will affect most. Well the representatives from the State of Tennessee Division of Health Planning wants to change that trend.

They recently held a series of workshops throughout Tennessee. On July 20, UTHSC welcomed the 2010 State Health Plan Regional Workshop: Shaping Tennessee’s Future.

Tennessee ranks high among certain health conditions and those that affect citizens most are obesity, heart attack, stroke, diabetes, cancer, alcoholism and drug abuse as well as health disparities.

The purpose of the workshop was for the Health Planning Division to obtain feedback from community leaders regarding proposed common goals about the upcoming 2010 State Health Plan and the top priorities for this region. The Health Planning Division also seeks to understand local and regional health care strategies.

The 2010 State Health Plan establishes five principles for achieving better health and outlines a public process for developing goals and strategies for each of the five principles. The results from this public process will be incorporated into future editions of the 2010 State Health Plan, which will continue to develop over time and update each year.

Director of Health Planning Jeff Ockerman presented an overview of the workshop following a warm welcome from UTHSC Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD. “We have been meeting since last December, developing services on issues regarding solutions from what people across the state think about health care,” Ockerman said.

More than 75 community leaders from several organizations were represented at the workshop. The attendees were divided into small groups of 10, where they spent more than one hour discussing goals and strategies including healthy living, access to health care, economic efficiency, quality of health care and workforce.

Given a list of potential goals, each group discussed and edited the proposed goals and added strategies for future consideration. Each team leader then reported back to the large group, sharing one key highlight from the individual group discussion.

The workshop concluded with remarks from Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD. “The quality of health care in Tennessee is important to us, and with your help, we can all reach more individuals at a community level,” Dr. Brown said.

The 2010 State Health plan began in 2009 with a health plan online survey that consisted of questions regarding the health conditions that plague Tennesseans. The results are:

- Every citizen should have reasonable access to health care.
- Health care resources should be developed to address the needs of Tennesseans while encouraging competitive markets, economic efficiencies and the continued development of the state’s health care system.
- Every citizen should have confidence that the equality of health care is continually monitored and standards are adhered to by health care providers.
- The state should support the recruitment and retention of a sufficient quality health care workforce.

These results were carefully discussed during the workshop and attendees were able to submit a strategy to expedite the process as well as present other ideas to aide in future additions to the 2010 State Health Plan.

Left to right: Jeff Ockerman, director, Division of Health Planning with the State of Tennessee spoke with Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff Ken Brown, after the 2010 State Health Plan Regional Workshop.

Fifth-grader Taylor Tyler (right) accompanied by her mother Betty Tyler (left) was the youngest community activist in attendance at the 2010 Health Plan Regional Workshop. She met with Dr. Ken Brown regarding her most recent endeavors. Taylor has been working with large organizations to develop funding geared towards creating small companies for children. She participated with a group of nine adults and provided valuable feedback.

For more information on the progress of the 2010 State Health Plan, please visit http://www.state.tn.us/finance/health-planning/stateHealthPlan.shtml.

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**Prize-Winning Medication Collection Includes COP**

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) recently announced that the Knoxville-Area Medication Collection Program received the Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Award for its excellence in solid waste management. The program was recognized for its role in keeping medication out of local waterways and landfills, as well as helping make the community safer by removing unwanted medications.

A plaque was presented to the medication collection task force at TDEC’s Solid/Hazardous Waste Conference and Exhibition. The award was one of 14 presented at an awards ceremony held in Nashville on June 24. According to TDEC’s website, the Tennessee Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards are the most prestigious environmental and conservation awards in the state and are intended to bring awareness to environmental issues facing our communities.

The Knoxville-Area Medication Collection Program is evolving and expanding its efforts with every event. The medication collection task force involves many organizations including the UT College of Pharmacy chapter of American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), the Knoxville Police Department, Knox County and City of Knoxville Solid Waste departments, and the Knox County Health Department. The most recent collection was held August 21, at Mercy Medical Center in north Knoxville.

On August 21, students from the APhA-ASP helped collect outdated medicine and educated the public about environmental issues involving medication with local organizations in the Knoxville-Area Medical Collection Program held at Mercy Medical Center.
Several high school students were seen on the UTHSC campus throughout the summer for internships, camps and leadership programs. One standout program was the Memphis Youth Leadership Program (MYLP). On July 29, students ended the eight-week program with a recap of what they learned all summer and a warm thank you and gift presentation to Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD.

More than 150 students completed the last of three cohorts and were eagerly anticipating using their skills for the upcoming school year and their future endeavors. MYLP is an eight-week pilot designed to be an interactive life skills program that engages youth, ages 14-17, through learning and applied experience in workforce readiness. MYLP is a partnership between the Memphis Challenge, Inc. and the Memphis Regional Chamber in conjunction with the City of Memphis Summer Youth Employment Program and business stakeholders.

The program has been structured to provide Memphis-area youth with opportunities for positive connections with family, peers, and community through a myriad of instructional methods such as, coping skills training, role-playing exercises, creative expression, speaker presentations and experiential learning.

Launched in 2008, MYLP students are presented weekly topics during the course including:

* Career Exploration
* Conflict Resolution
* Time and Money Management
* Business Etiquette
* Self-Esteem and Personal Image
* Effective Communication and Public Speaking
* Community Service
* Personal Responsibility/Character Development

The Memphis Challenge is a non-profit program created to ensure successful student/college matches and encourage students to return to Memphis after graduation. It offers advisement to students and their families regarding education choices, applying for scholarships and entrance to colleges and universities, and follow-up throughout college to ensure continued success.

Throughout their college experience, the Memphis Challenge also places students in summer internships within their fields of study. The internships provide a rewarding employment experience during the summer. They are designed to instill in students a commitment to become part of the future leadership of Memphis.

In the summer months students apply for internships in their fields of interest to better prepare them for their career choices. UTHSC has been a 19-year supporter of the Memphis Challenge. Several Memphis Challengers are alums of UT medical, dental and pharmacy schools.

For more information about the Memphis Challenge, call (901) 312-9620.

Wisdom Coleman, DDS, associate dean for admissions and student affairs and associate professor at the UT College of Dentistry, passed away at Methodist South Hospital on July 29, after enduring illness. Dr. Coleman’s tireless efforts have been responsible for the exceptional students who are enrolled in the College of Dentistry, who in turn, have helped maintain a strong dental workforce in Tennessee and Arkansas.

“Dr. Coleman has been an integral part of the College of Dentistry for 39 years and will be missed by colleagues, students and alumni alike,” noted Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief of staff.

For 30 years, Dr. Coleman practiced Family Dentistry at 1154 Bellevue Avenue in Memphis, Tenn. In 1997, he became associate dean of admissions at the UT College of Dentistry, and in 2002, he left private practice to assume that role full time. A member of St. Augustine’s Catholic Church for almost 40 years, he served and led numerous boards and committees throughout the Memphis community including the church Parish Council, the Memphis Challenge, Memphis and Shelby County Head Start, Mid-South Medical Council, The MED and Memphis Area Vocational School.

He is the recipient of numerous awards from organizations including the National Dental Association, the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Society, the Richard Doggett Dean and Margarette Taylor Honorary Odontological Society at UTHSC, and the African-American Hall of Fame at LeMoyne Owen College.
Dr. Cecilia Dowsing-Adams, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine is one of two recipients of the 2010 Outstanding Teaching Award recommended by students and honored at the UT Alumni Association’s Board of Governors banquet in Knoxville along with Dr. Harry Sharp.

Dr. Dowsing-Adams is also the clerkship director for the Family Medicine Department. She has served on several College of Medicine committees: Graduation Awards Committee, Clinical Science Subcommittees, Medical Student Scholarship Committee and the Faculty Senate. She has also served as chair for two Progress and Promotions Committees. Her community service efforts involve serving as Sunday school teacher, director of a local church young adult ministry and clinical preceptor for Tennessee Institutes for Pre-Professionals. Her community outreach includes mentoring adolescents about teen pregnancy, STDs, youth health and career success.

David Hamilton, DVM, DACLAM, assistant professor and staff veterinarian in the Department of Comparative Medicine, was recently named Big Brother of the Year for Memphis by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Memphis. Dr. Hamilton and his little brother Terrell appeared on Fox 13 news, where they discussed their experiences with the Big Brother program.

Bernd Meibohm, PhD, professor and associate dean of Graduate Programs and Research recently had an article published in the New England Journal of Medicine on how genetic ancestry data improves diagnosis in asthma and lung disease. Dr. Meibohm and UTHSC researcher Rongling Li, PhD, were part of a multi-institutional research team that found that patients’ precise genetic background told far more about their potential lung function – and therefore any damage that has occurred – than the self-identified racial profile commonly used in such tests.

The researchers used five large-scale, independent health studies with self-identified African-American populations, ranging in age from 18 to 93 years, to examine the impact of genetic ancestry on measures of lung function using recently developed genetic tools. The team found a significant link between African ancestry and pulmonary measurement in both men and women across all ages. Taking this genetic ancestry information into account could result in more appropriate treatment one step closer to personalized medicine.

W. Johnston Rowe, Jr., DDS, graduate of the UT College of Dentistry, has achieved accredited status in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD) – joining 300 dental professionals around the world who have earned this prestigious designation. Dr. Rowe reached this status through dedication to continuing education and careful adherence to clinical protocol.

“I am honored to be an accredited member of the AACD. Throughout the challenges of the program, I learned the key to providing exceptional cosmetic dental services to my patients,” says Dr. Rowe.

AACD members going through the AACD Accreditation Program for dentists and dental laboratory technicians must undergo a three-part process consisting of a written examination, submission of clinical cases for evaluation, and an oral examination. Each candidate must also attend a series of workshops. Dr. Rowe practices cosmetic and general dentistry in Jonesboro, Ark.

New Endocrinologist at UTMG

UTMG has added endocrinologist Aidar R. Gosmanov, MD, to its Eastmoreland office in Memphis, Tenn.

Dr. Gosmanov, assistant professor in the Department of Medicine-Endocrinology, completed internal medicine training at UTHSC College of Medicine and fellowship training at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta.

“Dr. Gosmanov will offer patients with diabetes and endocrinology problems the latest, evidence-based treatments,” said Guy Reed, MD, chairman of the Department of Medicine. “He will also specialize in treating related conditions, including hypertension, thyroid problems, osteoporosis and pituitary diseases.”

He also holds a doctorate in pharmacology and a doctorate of medical science degree in physiology. Gosmanov is board certified in internal medicine and has written extensively about diabetes and its complications.
Seaberg Named President Elect of ACEP

David C. Seaberg, MD, CPE, FACEP, dean for the College of Medicine Chattanooga at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, has been elected president-elect of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Dr. Seaberg, an emergency physician who has led the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga since summer 2007, was elected to the position during the ACEP annual meeting in Las Vegas. He will serve a one-year term on the ACEP’s Council and assume the presidency at the group’s 2011 meeting in San Francisco.

Founded in 1968 by a small group of physicians who shared a commitment to improving the quality of emergency care, today ACEP represents more than 27,000 emergency physicians, emergency medicine residents, and medical students. ACEP promotes the highest quality of emergency care and is the leading advocate for emergency physicians, their patients and the public.

Dr. Seaberg was first elected to the ACEP Board in 2005 and has previously served as chair of the ACEP Foundation. He has been a member of ACEP for 22 years and currently serves on ACEP’s board of directors.

In addition to his position as dean of the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga Dr. Seaberg also serves as a UT professor, sharing his knowledge and experience with upcoming generations of medical residents and students. When he joined UT, Dr. Seaberg brought with him 13 years of experience on the faculty of the University of Florida. During those years, he was a leader on medical and hospital aspects of domestic security, founding the University Alliance for Weapons of Mass Destruction Education, and serving as co-chair of the Health/Medical/Hospital/EMS Committee of the State Work Group for Domestic Security. Dr. Seaberg has also given testimony before the House Committee on Homeland Security on fighting pandemic flu.

“The crisis in emergency medicine is not going to be solved by health care reform alone,” said Dr. Seaberg. “Emergency departments continue to close while emergency visits continue to rise. Medical emergencies are a fact of life that will not go away.” He observed, “Emergency physicians have a key role to play in health care reform as we touch all parts of society and all parts of the health care system. Policymakers should be working with us to develop solutions to both individual and systemic problems.”

Dr. Seaberg attended medical school at the University of Minnesota and did his emergency medicine residency training at the University of Pittsburgh. He is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine and the Certifying Commission in Medical Management. He has written more than 130 publications, book chapters and abstracts and has received numerous teaching and research awards.

Headquartered in Dallas, Texas, ACEP has 53 chapters representing each state, as well as Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. A Government Services Chapter represents emergency physicians employed by military branches and other government agencies.

Eppert Honored at TPA Convention

Heather Draper Eppert, PharmD, BCPS, Knoxville, Tenn., was recently presented the “Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award” in a ceremony during the 123rd Annual Convention of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA) in Memphis, Tenn.

Dr. Eppert is an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy Knoxville campus in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and practices as a clinical specialist in Emergency Medicine at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, Tenn.

She earned her Bachelor of Science from Grand Valley State University and her PharmD from Ferris State University College of Pharmacy.

Dr. Eppert evaluates and participates in the emergency room medication use process, including providing recommendations for appropriate medication therapy, establishing an environment with an emphasis on patient safety, providing education and counseling to patients and their families, serving as a drug information resource to the emergency department, and acting as the liaison between the pharmacy and emergency departments. Dr. Eppert and her husband Alex reside in Knoxville, Tenn.

The Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award was initiated in 1993 to recognize one pharmacist annually who has “demonstrated innovative pharmacy practice resulting in improved patient care.”

The award is presented by the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations and its member state pharmacy association to provide recognition for the important role pharmacists have in providing support to patients to optimize their medication use in a manner no one else can.

GRANTS

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

James Eoff, PharmD
HRSA-Health Resources and Service Administration Minority Center of Excellence
$1,121,415

Meiyun Fan, PhD
NIH-National Cancer Institute
“ARRA: Molecular Mechanism of ID 1 Function in Advanced Breast Cancer”
$245,681

Max Fletcher, PhD
NIH-National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
“In Vivo Optical Imaging of Experience-Induced Olfactory Bulb Glomuerular Platicit”
$103,060

Kristin Hamre, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
“Gender and Genetic Effects on Sleep and Wake Parameters Following Ethanol Exposure”
$224,484

Yao Sun, MD, PhD
NIH-National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
“Regulatory Mechanisms of Oxidative Stress in Cardiac Angiogenesis Post-Infarction”
$1,450,000

Karl Weber, MD
NIH-National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
“Regulatory Mechanism of Oxidative Stress in Hypertensive Heart Disease”
$370,000
COM Recognizes Excellence with 2010 Outstanding Alumni Awards

Phil McGraw, PhD, the psychologist known for the “Dr. Phil Show” on television, wisely stated during a broadcast, “Great leadership starts with removing an ‘I can’t do it’ attitude.” Graduates of the College of Medicine have been making bold moves to take health care into greater heights for decades.

Annually, four alumni who exude commitment, creativity and courage in improving the health care industry are selected by the executive committee of the UT College of Medicine alumni council to be duly recognized. This year’s Outstanding Alumni Awards were presented during a noon luncheon at the Peabody Hotel on Friday, October 15. Honorees included: James C. Fleming, Ann McGuire Grooms, Phyllis E. Miller, and Jesse C. Woodall, Jr.

James C. Fleming, MD, FACS, Class of 1974, serves UTHSC as vice chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and as the Philip M. Lewis Professor of Ophthalmology. Dr. Fleming splits his time between these duties and working a full clinical and surgical schedule. In addition, he directs the Orbit Center, a service at the UT Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) to treat orbital disease and trauma, and is chair of the UT Medical Group Finance Committee. In 1997, Dr. Fleming joined the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology as head of Oculoplastic Service. He was promoted to full professor in 2003 and helped to establish the UTHSC fellowship in Oculoplastic Surgery. Dr. Fleming led the development of the HEI Surgery Center, a state-of-the-art unit that began providing ocular surgeries in 2007. The center, which is also a training lab for aspiring ocular surgeons at UTHSC, became a reality due to Dr. Fleming’s effort to garner support from Baptist Memorial Health Care Corp., Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare Corp., and ophthalmologists in the community.

Dr. Fleming is passionate about serving organizations that shape health care policy. He chairs the Tennessee Medical Association Delegation to the American Medical Association and has held the office of president of: the Memphis Eye Society; the Memphis and Shelby County Medical Society, and the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He also served the Council of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. In 2005, Dr. Fleming received the Senior Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Locally, the Memphis Business Journal honored him with the 2007 Health Care Hero Award in the top physician category. Dr. Fleming donates time as a volunteer physician for the Church Health Center and provides services internationally to Third World nations through the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital and the World Cataract Foundation.

Ann McGuire Grooms, MD, Class of 1966, specializes in pediatrics, neuromusculoskeletal medicine, sports medicine and family medicine in Gainesville, Fla. In 1978, Dr. Grooms joined the University of Florida Student Health Care Center as a staff physician and assistant professor. She focused her work on sports health and women’s medicine, and launched the university’s first medical program for all student-athletes in the 1980s. Dr. Grooms received the University of Florida Faculty Superior Accomplishment Award in 1996 and 2003. In 1997, she earned the Centennial Leader Award for leading a scholarship campaign benefitting students in the College of Education, Health and Human Services at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Grooms is a charter member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Additionally, she has served as a member of the University of Tennessee Medical Alumni Council for the state of Florida.

Phyllis E. Miller, MD, Class of 1972, has specialized in obstetrics and gynecology in Chattanooga since the 1970s. Dr. Miller currently serves the gynecology needs of women at The Women’s Institute for Specialized Health in Chattanooga and is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. She was the first female chief of staff at Chattanooga’s Erlanger Health System from 1993 to 1995, and the first female born in Polk County to become a physician.

While managing her private practice in Chattanooga, Dr. Miller also serves as president of three medical organizations: the Tennessee Medical Association, the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Medical Society, and the Chattanooga OB/GYN Society. She provides support to other medical organizations, including the Medical Foundation of Chattanooga and the State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company review committee. In 2010, the Tennessee Medical Association selected Dr. Miller as the Outstanding Physician of Tennessee. She recently completed her first medical mission trip, which consisted of one month in Haiti following the devastating earthquake that struck the island nation in January. Her work in Haiti included delivering babies and providing other women’s health care needs.

Jesse C. Woodall, Jr., MD, FACOG, FACS, is an alumnus of the Class of 1964. After medical school, Dr. Woodall enlisted in the U.S. Army as a captain. He served as an Army flight surgeon and later returned to Memphis where he completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology. Since 1970, Dr. Woodall has specialized in obstetrics and gynecology in a private practice in Memphis. He currently provides office gynecology services, but discontinued the practice of delivering babies, recalling that he has delivered babies in the second and third generations of some families. While practicing medicine, Dr. Woodall has served as an associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UTHSC. He received the department’s Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award in 1996. Dr. Woodall has held the offices of president and vice president for the Memphis Medical Society, and is a member of the Tennessee Medical Association, which awarded him the Outstanding Physician Award in 2000. On a national level, Dr. Woodall is a diplomat of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, as well as a fellow of: the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology; the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology.
Racial Disparity Study Gains Attention

UTHSC scientists are often used as references for their research. Recently, Junling Wang, PhD, MS, a Health Outcomes and Policy Research faculty member, was interviewed for a study she led regarding minorities and their ability to qualify for Medicare prescription help.

Dr. Wang and her colleagues found that African-Americans would be 34 percent less likely to meet Medicare Therapy Management’s (MTM) eligibility than whites and that Hispanics would be up to 38 percent less prone to meet eligibility requirements, according to Katherine Kahn, contributing writer for Health Behavior News Service (HBNS).

MTM is Medicare’s prescription management program. Kahn reported that in 2010, to be eligible for the program, a person must be enrolled in the Medicare Part D drug program, have at least three chronic health conditions, take eight or more medications covered by Part D and spend at least $3,000 per year on the medications.

The study, which can be found in the journal Health Services Research (HSR), is important because health agencies and private insurance companies often adopt Medicare policies.

“We suspected there might be potential problems related to eligibility criteria for minorities since historically racial and ethnic minorities tend to use fewer medications and they tend to incur lower prescription drug costs,” Dr. Wang said.

Kahn wrote that the recent changes in policies to improve health care quality have not been very effective in reducing racial and ethnic disparities according to Dr. Wang.

“In fact, sometimes these policies have really widened the disparity gap. If we don’t take those differences into consideration, minorities will lag behind,” Dr. Wang said.

HBNS is part of the Center for Advancing Health. It disseminates news stories on the latest findings from peer-reviewed research journals.

HSR is Health Research and Educational Trust’s flagship publication and an official journal of Academy Health. Rated as one of the top journals in the field, HSR publishes outstanding articles reporting the findings of original investigations that expand understanding of the wide-ranging field of health care and help improve the health of individuals and communities.

Professor Honored by American Association of Endodontists

Dam Lloyd, BDS, MS, received the Edward M. Osetek Educator Award from the American Association of Endodontists during the association’s recent annual session in San Diego, Calif. The award is presented to a full-time educator with fewer than 10 years of teaching experience.

A member of the AAE since 1996, Dr. Lloyd already has made extraordinary strides in his teaching career and contributions to the world of endodontic education. He received his BDS at the University of Wales College of Medicine in 1994, followed by his Certificate in Endodontics and MS from the Baylor College of Dentistry. Currently Dr. Lloyd is an associate professor in the College of Dentistry. He previously held an associate professorship at Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine and also served as the director of predoctoral endodontics at the University of California at San Francisco School of Dentistry.

Dr. Lloyd has two young sons and resides in Germantown, Tenn.
STUDENTS
UTHSC Hosts Student Appreciation Day

In August, students received a full welcome from UTHSC faculty and staff at the 2010 Student Appreciation Day. More than 300 students enjoyed ice cream, food, fun and games at the Student-Alumni Center. Held once a year, Student Appreciation Day gives students the opportunity to mix, mingle, meet and greet, and enjoy the campus before the fall session begins.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
The Virtual Student

The traditional higher education experience has vastly changed due to the growing technology developed around the world. No longer do students have to attend classes in a standard setting or surround themselves with their peers while intensively focused on the teacher and the chalkboard. Technology has warranted the opportunity to access one’s classroom and earn a degree from anywhere in the world.

Lesley Bailey, first-year dental hygiene student in the College of Allied Health Sciences, has taken advantage of one of the online degrees that UT Health Science Center has to offer. Bailey is pursuing a master’s in dental hygiene from her home in Jonesborough, Tenn.

“Choosing UTHSC’s master of dental hygiene program as an integral part of my continuing education was made for the ease and availability of this online degree completion program,” Bailey said. “Since I live and work in northeast Tennessee, it is a natural choice to participate in various extra-curricular activities. Her community service efforts include volunteering for Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinics, designed to aid in the underserved populations of Appalachia. She also volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club of Johnson City, providing dental sealants to children ages 6 to 12.

Bailey received an associate’s degree in biological sciences from Roane State Community College in Harriman, Tenn. and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tenn. Several years later she discovered her passion for dental hygiene and received a bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene from ETSU in May 2009.

A native of Crossville, Tenn., Bailey and her husband Rob, who is a professional engineer, share their home with two lab-basset hound dogs, Barley and Hopps. She plans to fully transition into dental hygiene, both clinically and didactically. “I have a science background and thrive on topics such as, periodontology and pharmacology, as well as community health and ethics. Dental hygiene is a well-rounded profession, where you can work in private practice, public health, education and community outreach. The options are limitless.”

Her advice for students interested in an online education is, “Take advantage of the opportunity to be in control of your education. The program’s flexibility, outstanding faculty, wealth of knowledge, and the abundance of resources make it not only irresistible, but undeniably an easy decision,” she said.

Graduate Research Day

The annual Graduate Research Day was another success. On May 3, more than 39 students displayed posters in the General Education Building lobby to showcase their outstanding research.

Students also participated in career development workshops presented by Kathy Gibbs, director of Student Academic Support Services. A screening of the film “Naturally Obsessed,” a documentary about the trials of being a graduate student in the biomedical sciences field, was available for viewing as well.

Posters were judged by faculty volunteers and cash awards were made to students at different levels in their studies. Congratulations to all of the participants.

Lesley Bailey

Kathy Gibbs, director of Student Academic Support Services. A screening of the film “Naturally Obsessed,” a documentary about the trials of being a graduate student in the biomedical sciences field, was available for viewing as well.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

The Virtual Student

“I feel the difference between the traditional classroom setting and the online classroom setting is the lack of real-time interaction between faculty and students. I view online classrooms as having the advantage to foster creativity and encourage proactive participation among students. This allows time for research, reference and recollection. By operating in this fashion, the online student is prepared, confident and well informed prior to conversing with classmates and faculty,” Bailey said.

Bailey is currently an adjunct clinical faculty member, teaching three days a week at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) and working as a dental hygienist on an as-needed basis. She is a member of the American Dental Hygiene Association and participates in various extra-curricular activities.

Bailey said. “Since I live and work in northeast Tennessee, it is a natural choice to achieve the degree I desire, coupled with the flexibility of courses, and still maintain the level of interaction and influence I desire from the professors.”

Bailey’s goal and personal mission is to contribute to her local community and state through oral health promotion and education. Her goal emulates the blueprint of UTHSC’s four-tier mission, which is education, research, clinical care and public service, all to support improving the health of Tennesseans.

“A native of Crossville, Tenn., Bailey and her husband Rob, who is a professional engineer, share their home with two lab-basset hound dogs, Barley and Hopps. She plans to fully transition into dental hygiene, both clinically and didactically. “I have a science background and thrive on topics such as, periodontology and pharmacology, as well as community health and ethics. Dental hygiene is a well-rounded profession, where you can work in private practice, public health, education and community outreach. The options are limitless.”

Her advice for students interested in an online education is, “Take advantage of the opportunity to be in control of your education. The program’s flexibility, outstanding faculty, wealth of knowledge, and the abundance of resources make it not only irresistible, but undeniably an easy decision,” she said.
UTHSC Students Leave SNPhA Meeting With Honors

During the summer, the UTHSC chapter of the Student National Pharmacy Association (SNPhA) headed to Seattle, Wash., for its annual conference and returned with an array of awards and recognitions.

SNPhA is an educational service association of pharmacy students who are concerned about pharmacy and health care related issues, as well as the poor minority representation in pharmacy and other health-related professions.

At the close of the conference, UTHSC was informed that every student that applied for SNPhA scholarships was awarded. The scholarship winners were Kendra Young with the Holland Book Award; Zachary Germann with the National Pharmacist Association Endowed Scholarship for $1,000; Morgan Rainey with the Kroger Scholarship for $1,000, and Alda Shepherd with the Rite-Aid Scholarship for $2,000.

Two UTHSC students were named chair of two national initiatives. Valeana Ruffin was elected to the Power to End Stroke Chair, and Kendra Young was elected to the Chronic Kidney Disease Chair.

During the conference, students were divided into two teams for a national skills competition and both teams placed. Kendra Young and Christa Nance (Team One) placed second, and Danesha Williams and Sandra Weissmiller (Team Two) placed third.

The chapter also received the 2010 National Convention Registration Award for registering the most members and certificates of participation in all six national initiatives.

UTHSC was named host of the 2011 SNPhA Region I and II meeting that will convene on March 18-20. Regions I and II encompass 34 colleges of pharmacy with more than 200 students. It will be held at the Westin Memphis on Beale Street.

UTHSC was also named one of the top three chapters in Chauncey I. Cooper (CIC) points in the large chapter category. CIC points are acquired through community service projects targeting SNPhA’s six national initiatives: Diabetes, Power to End Stroke, HIV/AIDS, Operation Immunization, Legislative/Voting/Immigration, and Chronic Kidney Disease Initiatives.

For more information, please visit https://www.snpha.org/ConventionRegistration.aspx.

GHS Travel Awards 2010

Our students are the best representatives of the outstanding research that is done as part of their education. In addition, UTHSC recognizes that presentation at scientific meetings is an important part of a student’s education and being part of the scientific community. To help defray the cost of meeting attendance, CGHS grants travel awards of $500 each to degree candidates who have had a paper accepted for presentation at a scientific meeting. From July 2009 to June 2010, students receiving travel awards were:

- Hossam Abdelsamed, Integrated Biomedical Sciences (IBS)
- Sonia Bedi, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Kelly Caudle, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Jianjun Chen, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Li Chen, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Stephen Crawcour, Speech and Hearing Science
- Connie Cupples, Nursing
- Cecile Evans, Nursing
- Rebecca Giatt, IBS
- Enitra Jones, IBS
- Ji Young Lee, Speech and Hearing Science
- Damodaran Narayanan, IBS
- Ravikiran Panakanti, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Rhonda Perciavalle, IBS
- Ethel Pereira, IBS
- Tim Sullivan, IBS
- Reba Umberger, Nursing
- Zhao Wang, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Sandra Williams, Nursing
- Ningning Yang, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Hyo Jin Yoon, Speech and Hearing Science
- Yi Zhang, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Kui Zheng, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Guo Zhu, IBS
- Lin Zhu, Pharmaceutical Sciences

BBQ Fits Trend for Passing Boards

On August 23, the D-3 Class was treated to a barbecue luncheon with all the trimmings. The lunch, which was slow-smoked overnight on the patio behind the Dunn Building by grill master Mike McBride, DDS, associate professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, was a reward for having 100 percent of the class pass their National Board Part I exam taken last spring as D-2 students.

The reward luncheon was started in 2008 when Interim Dean Mark Patters told the D-2 class: “If everyone in the class passes the board exam, I’ll provide a barbecue lunch.” They did and he did!

Little did he know that he would have to make good on his promise to all the D-2 classes to follow. This was the third year for the special lunch, so it appears that Dr. Patters, with Dr. McBride’s expertise and Dean Hotell’s support, has started a tradition: a small price to pay for the success of our students.
Researchers are filmed while controlling UTHSC's state-of-the-art spine robot.

“Pioneering Minds” (video)

“Making Medical Dreams Reality” (video)

“Prescription for Success” (video)

These new TV spots, produced by W+A in association with Beale Street Studios, join three prior spots produced in 2009:

“Keeping Nuts from Killing” (video)

“Innovations with Real Teeth” (video)

“Top 10 Transplant Institute” (video)

“The W+A team has brought tremendous creativity, insight and energy to the university’s marketing efforts. They are true thought partners who plan carefully and act strategically,” says Sheila Champlin, director of Communications and Marketing at UTHSC. “W+A works diligently to achieve their clients’ desired results.”

“The Right here in Memphis campaign was created to celebrate the incredible resource we have in UTHSC,” says Andy Windham, COO of W+A. “Through TV, online, print and more, we want everyone to know about the outstanding people at UTHSC.”

### Centennial Book Coming Soon

As UT Health Science Center approaches its centennial anniversary in 2011, the University is planning a variety of special activities and items including a lecture series, Web site, coffee table book, commemorative gala in Memphis on Friday, September 16, 2011, and a 5-K run-walk in the Bluff City on Sunday, September 18, 2011.

By January, the centennial book titled — The Legacy The Future: A Centennial Portrait of The University of Tennessee Health Science Center — will arrive in the UTHSC Bookstore 1930 Madison Avenue, Plaza Level, Memphis. It can also be purchased through the bookstore Web site - http://www.uthsc.bncollege.com. The beautifully photographed, oversized coffee table book is priced at $60, but the advance, discount price is $50, plus applicable taxes and shipping ($6.95 for the first book, $1.95 for each additional book shipped to the same address).

Plus, at no extra charge, the first 1,000 orders will include a free book — The University of Tennessee, Memphis, 75th Anniversary — Medical Accomplishments, written by James E. Hamner. This book is filled with stories and facts about the campus. Order early to get your free copy.

Be part of the centennial celebration by contributing historical photos, personal reflections, or artifacts you may have from your time at UTHSC for inclusion on the Web site or in special campus displays. Please contact Richard Nollan in the Health Sciences Historical Collections at (901) 448-6053, rnollan@uthsc.edu.

### New Folders Available

UT Health Science Center folders have been redesigned by the Office of Communications and Marketing and are now available for purchase in General Stores. These full-color items will replace the basic green and orange UTHSC folders that were available. The new design depicts each college and brings attention to our centennial celebration.

Though the look has changed, the price has stayed the same — 62 cents.

Folders can be ordered from General Stores online at http://www.uthsc.edu/gen_store/