Fulfilling the Dream –
Opening the New Pharmacy Building

On December 7, 2007, ground was broken for the new pharmacy building on the Memphis campus. Now, this new facility is almost ready to open. UTHSC has set August 25, at 10 a.m. for the official dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

“With the UT College of Pharmacy sign recently placed on the outside of the building, the college’s faculty, staff and students are looking forward to moving into the new building,” said Rob Nolly, pharmaceutical sciences professor and building committee chair.

Over the past few months, areas have taken shape with more definition. Installation of data, telecommunications, audio-visual and distance learning infrastructure is under way, and the selection of interior furnishings for the building is complete. With many of the interior features of the building being completed, work continues on the atrium with its large skylights, as well as on auditoriums and classrooms, research laboratories, and office areas.

The six-story, 183,857-square-foot building is only the second facility on the grounds of the UT-Baptist Research Park. University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy students, faculty and staff are eagerly looking forward to occupying the new building.

All students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to attend this historic event for the UT College of Pharmacy.

UTHSC Joins In Launching
The Colleges of Memphis

Memphis is known for many wonderful aspects – the Blues, good barbecue, and logistics. Now Mayor A C Wharton, Jr., the Assisi Foundation of Memphis, Inc., and area higher education institutions want to add another one to that list – Memphis colleges.

At a press conference held on June 6, Mayor Wharton, with the help of three students who represented Memphis education, unveiled plans for and officially kicked off The Colleges of Memphis: Knowledge Wisdom Soul. The initiative is designed to market the city’s educational opportunities and help attract and retain college students, faculty and staff.

One of UTHSC’s own, Manolo Soto-Fournier, a fourth-year medical student, addressed the audience that gathered in the Hall of Mayors at City Hall. Soto-Fournier knows intimately the different educational outlets in the area. From attending Ridgeway High School to the University of Memphis: Knowledge Wisdom Soul. The initiative is designed to market the city’s educational opportunities and help attract and retain college students, faculty and staff.

When pondering what to say at the press conference, a subject line on spam e-mail struck him; it read “Learn More.” “That’s what you can do in this city,” said Soto-Fournier. “With as much diversity as we have in this city, Learn More is what you can do at any one of these institutions. The diversity

See Launch, pg. 3

Centennial Events and Gala Info Inside!

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center is to bring the benefits of the health sciences to the achievement and maintenance of human health, with a focus on the citizens of Tennessee and the region, by pursuing an integrated program of education, research, clinical care, and public service.
HR: Upcoming Campus Initiatives

While the pace on campus often slows down this time of year, Human Resources staff are gearing up for several new initiatives happening this fall.

Employee feedback, recruitment, and analysis of compensation and benefits are some of HR’s top priorities that both impact you and will get intense consideration.

Your input will be sought in a statewide UT employee survey and used to make improvements across this campus in areas ranging from job satisfaction and professional development, to policies and pay. Plans are also in the works to implement software to enhance the job search, application and hiring processes for staff positions. Finally, the Compensation Advisory Board will bring you news on its efforts to analyze pay and benefits compared to our organizational peers.

More information about these and other initiatives will be shared in coming weeks as their launch nears. Please remain engaged as we work together to make the university a better place to work for all faculty and staff.

UTHSC Launches Interventional Cardiology Fellowship

In July, the UT Health Science Center launched the area’s only Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program certified by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Interventional Cardiology is a subspecialty of cardiology in which the physician provides catheter–based treatment (catheterization) of vascular and structural heart diseases. Since it deals with intricate techniques for the intervention of critical vasculature with minimally invasive strategy, the operator must be both skillful and experienced with the procedures.

“As one of very few interventional cardiology training programs in the Mid-South and the second in the state of Tennessee, this will help to attract more physicians to the region and also attract high quality trainees to our residency and fellowship programs,” said Santhosh Koshy, MD, FACC, FSCAI, associate professor of Medicine at UTHSC, director of the new Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program, and director of UT Cardiology Services at Methodist Hospital. “The primary training site, Methodist University Hospital, will be one of the premier centers in the nation for advanced interventional cardiology training.”

One of only two ACGME-accredited interventional cardiology initiatives in Tennessee, each year the program will provide one talented physician with focused training in coronary, peripheral and structural heart procedures, as well as neurovascular procedures. Successful completion of the one-year program will allow the trainees to be eligible to appear for the American Board of Internal Medicine certification examination in Interventional Cardiology.

During the UTHSC fellowship, trainees will hone the skills required to perform such procedures as:

- angioplasty and stent replacement – in both non-emergency cases of blocked and hardened arteries known as atherosclerosis, and emergency cases of heart attack or myocardial infarction;
- valvuloplasty – dilation of narrowed cardiac valves;
- procedures for congenital heart disease, and
- coronary thrombectomy – removal of blood clots from blood vessels.

Each of the physicians accepted into the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program will have already completed three years of ACGME-accredited fellowship training in cardiovascular diseases.

Coronary artery disease (CAD) is America’s leading cause of death. In 2010, the total cost of cardiovascular disease for all ages and both genders was $503.2 billion. An estimated 1.2 million Americans will have a new or recurrent coronary attack this year. The growing patient population suffering from CAD and the desire to treat patients with minimally invasive options has driven growth in interventional procedures, which continue to displace the more invasive surgical procedures. The importance of an advanced training program is magnified by the documented shortage of cardiologists. In 2009, the American College of Cardiology Workforce Group estimated a shortage of cardiologists that is projected to worsen in the next two decades. Volumes for interventional cardiology procedures continue to grow with almost a 267 percent increase since 1987.

The interventional cardiology fellowship program is a section within the Division of Cardiology. For more information on this unique program, contact Brenda Coleman at bcolema4@uthsc.edu.
Launch, cont. from page 1

is unbelievable. And beyond that we live in a city that needs people to Learn More ... and we have places for them to apply what it is they are learning ... they can use that knowledge to improve where we live and to make a difference.”

The coalition has representatives from area colleges and universities, including Baptist College of Health Sciences, Christian Brothers University, Harding School of Theology, LeMoyne-Owen College, Memphis College of Art, Memphis Theological Seminary, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Rhodes College, Southern College of Optometry, Southwest Tennessee Community College, University of Memphis, University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Victory University.

With the support of the Assisi Foundation, the mayor’s office and these schools have worked for almost a year to gather information and prepare for the launch. Surveys asking students about their perspective as well as research on marketing colleges and universities was conducted.

“The whole purpose is to say this is the day that marks the turning point,” said Mayor Wharton, “While Memphis is the city of entertainment, it is the city of food, it is the city of logistics, it is the city of the river, but it is also ... the city of a quest for knowledge at the highest level.”

Memphis has 60,000 students engaged in higher education – 50,000 undergraduate and 10,000 graduate students, not to mention the number of faculty and staff that the universities employ each year. The Colleges of Memphis wants to provide annual welcoming activities for new faculty and students, as well as networking events to encourage those students who are graduating to stay in Memphis.

Visit the new The Colleges of Memphis: Knowledge Wisdom Soul Web site at – www.collegesofmemphis.org for more information about showcasing the city’s educational opportunities.

Study Confirms: UTHSC Brings Jobs, Funding, Health Care Across the State

A study designed to gauge the economic impact of UTHSC on the economy of Tennessee for the 2010 fiscal year concluded that UTHSC’s total economic contribution to the state amounted to more than $2.3 billion.

When it comes to employment figures, the study reports that UTHSC was directly and indirectly responsible for supplying approximately 21,096 jobs across the state, which, in turn, generated a total of more than $804 million in earnings. Of the total, 21,096 jobs created for Tennessee as a result of UTHSC's operations, the largest share are in the Memphis area, with roughly 15,575 jobs.

Memphis also contributed the most in total economic impact, representing about 73.8 percent of the total $2.3 billion impact. The other two major UTHSC locations, Knoxville and Chattanooga, represent 17.3 percent and 8.9 percent of the total respectively.

In regards to the effect of individual colleges at UTHSC, the College of Medicine was responsible for the creation of the most jobs, accounting for more than 89 percent of total economic contribution. This was followed by the College of Pharmacy, the College of Dentistry, the College of Allied Health Sciences, the College of Nursing, and the College of Graduate Health Sciences.

In addition to its economic impacts, the UT Health Science Center has a substantial influence on the well-being of the citizens of Shelby County and the state of Tennessee through its role in educating and training health care professionals. Of all physicians practicing in Tennessee, for example, approximately 34 percent were graduates of one of the four colleges of medicine within the state; of these, 66.7 percent were graduates of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

Presented by the Methodist Le Bonheur Center for Healthcare Economics and the Sparks Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Memphis, the study further demonstrates that the economic impact of UTHSC’s statewide teaching, research and clinical practice activities continues to expand.

T2: HASTA LA VISTA OLD PARKING SYSTEM

The UTHSC Parking Authority office will be implementing a new parking data system in September 2011. The new T2 System will help the UTHSC Parking Office meet the current parking needs of faculty, staff, students and visitors.

The new software will ensure that parking data is integrated with other departments and student information systems. It will be the first updated parking software the department has received since 1987. The new T2 system will include handheld ticket writers for the officers and a pay online system, so you will no longer need to pay tickets in person.

As part of the need to optimize parking solutions on campus, the Priority Point System will be changed to reflect a “first-come, first-served” format. This new format will help alleviate the up-and-down movement previously experienced by parking subscribers on the parking waiting list.

“T2 Parking Management Systems have delivered proven parking solutions that meet the ever-changing needs of university campus parking,” said Chief of Campus Police Lue Walls-Upchurch. “With its broad range of technology-based solutions, T2 Systems have been implemented on the Chattanooga, Martin and Knoxville campuses. We are excited and look forward to the implementation on the Memphis campus.”
GRANTS

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

Monica Jablonski, PhD
NIH - National Eye Institute
“Genetic Mutations in Glaucoma”
$370,000
Dispersed over: 1 year

Jonathan Jaggar, PhD
NIH-National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
“Arterial Smooth Muscle Cell Channels”
$370,000
Dispersed over: 1 year

Lisa Jennings, PhD
American Heart Association
“Health Science Fellowship in Vascular Biology”
$13,500
Dispersed over: 2 years

American Heart Association
“CDS Regulates Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Adhesion to Fibronectin”
$82,500
Dispersed over: 2 years

Michio Kurosu, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
“Targeting MraY: Synthesis and Validation of MraY Inhibitors”
$336,375
Dispersed over: 1 year

Anjaparavanda Naren, PhD
NIH-National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease
“LPA2 Receptor Containing Complexes in Regulating Secretory Diarrhea”
$333,000
Dispersed over: 1 year

Tommie Norris, DNS, RN
Health Resources and Services Administration
“Nursing Workforce Diversity”
$269,012
Dispersed over: 1 year

Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD
U.S. Army Medical Research “Novel Methods in Brain Tumor Research”
$673,427
Dispersed over: 1 year

Jena Jean Steinele, PhD
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
“Compound 49b Prevents Diabetic Retinopathy through IGFBI Interactions in Type 1 Diabetes”
$165,000
Dispersed over: 1 year

As the only unit of its kind within a 150-mile radius of Memphis, the Firefighters Regional Burn Center on the first floor of the Regional Medical Center (The MED) is the authority on burn and wound care. With a growing number of cases and a limited number of rooms equipped for burn patients, the demand for the center’s services is exceeding the supply. The center is currently seeking donations from the Memphis community to expand to the second floor of the Jesse Turner Tower at The MED.

The center serves burn and wound victims age 12 and above, treating an array of injuries. Patient cases include:

- adults and youth suffering from scalds, grease fires, chemical burns, electrical accidents, and fireworks or other home injuries;
- utility workers or contractors injured at worksites;
- residents wounded by burning rubbish;
- firefighters burned in the line of duty while saving lives;
- citizens requiring help to heal deep wounds or keloid scars (skin that produces an overgrowth of tissue at a wound site).

The severity of injuries range from moderate burns on a limb or face, to serious burns, which cover most of the body. Depending on the severity, burn wounds can be mildly or significantly debilitating. However, with proper care, and physical and occupational therapy, most patients regain a normal range of movement and function.

Routine, the center assists injured workers from companies like FedEx, Valero Energy Corporation, Nike, and Memphis Light, Gas and Water. Following certain holidays, such as July 4, the center experienced an influx of individuals burned from sparklers or fireworks. The center also serves rural citizens from Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas who travel to the center for care.

Increasingly, there are not enough beds or service areas to treat all citizens seeking burn or wound care at the specialized center. At these times, the center must “direct patients to the main facility at The MED or to surrounding hospitals,” said its director, William Hickerson, MD, a gifted plastic surgeon who founded the unit in 1985.

Dr. Hickerson, who also trains plastic surgeons at UT Health Science Center, is exceptionally dedicated to burn and wound patients since he, too, was a burn victim many years ago.

Currently, the Burn Center has 14 beds and assists more than 200 patients annually. Extreme cases may require inpatient care for up to nine months, and the average inpatient stay is one day per one percentage of burned area on the body. For example, a patient who is burned on 20 percent of his body may stay 20 days. Thus, beds can become scarce.

“We hope to expand our facility to the floor above us, which is currently unused,” said Dr. Hickerson. “The expansion would double our patient capacity, but additional funding is needed to purchase the technology required to augment the floor for burn patients. Any resources or donations we acquire assist us in providing an important medical service for the region. We make life easier for burn victims, helping them return to the most normal lifestyle possible after suffering second- or third-degree burns.”

Along with performing reconstructive surgeries, Dr. Hickerson manages the day-to-day business and staffing needs of the center, and juggles a schedule of outpatient clinic consultations for burn and wound victims.

In 2010, the Fire Fighters Association Local 1784 donated $40,000 to the center. Then, in 2011, the unit hosted a successful conference for 125 burn specialists who traveled to Memphis from several states to collaborate on trends in burn and wound care. As the Mid-South’s supplier of specialized burn and wound care, the Burn Center offers reconstructive surgery, acute care rooms with advanced technology, inpatient rooms, an outpatient clinic for burn and wound victims, physical and occupational rehabilitation services, hydrotherapy, and hyperbaric oxygen treatments that help to speed wound healing. In addition, the center is a base for innovative burn and wound care research led by Dr. Hickerson. He and his entire team provide much-needed emotional support to all patients undergoing the trauma of being burned or wounded.

For more information about donating to the Firefighters Regional Burn Center, contact Bethany Goolsby, JD, interim vice chancellor of Development and Alumni Affairs, at (901) 448-4941 or bgoolsby@uthsc.edu.
UTHSC Recognizes Commitment, Employee Service

For many, summer is the time to take vacation and reflect on the work accomplished throughout the year. For UTHSC, summer is the perfect time to acknowledge the faculty and staff that have shown continued commitment and dedication to the campus at the Employee Recognition Luncheons.

Three luncheons were arranged in order to better acknowledge employees: one for employees who have been at the university for 5 to 9 years, one for those who have served 10 to 20 years, and for men and women who have stayed for 25 years and above. This year, more than 100 employees were honored at the five-year ceremony.

Michael Alston, EdD, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity, talked about why it is important to recognize employees who have stayed at the university for five years. “The five-year reception is a ceremony that marks a transitional period with UTHSC for employees. For employees with five years of service this means receiving a service pin and vesting in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System.”

UTHSC recognized 30 employees with 10 years of service, 15 employees with 15 years, and 11 employees with 20 years of dedication to the campus.

At the 10, 15 and 20-year service reception, Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief operations officer, stated that “Long-serving employees are the future of this university. It is a huge sacrifice to work in the public sector instead of the private sector, and on behalf of all the deans and the vice chancellors, thank you.”

Many of the 25-year luncheon participants stated that they would be staying for many years to come. One such employee was recognized for devoting his lifetime to the Health Science Center.

Walter C. Sandusky, DDS, professor of Orthodontics, was honored for his 60 years of service to UTHSC. Over that time, Dr. Sandusky has mentored many students including former student Stan Covington, DDS, who presented Dr. Sandusky with a special award.

Dr. Covington said, “Thirty years ago when I was a student, Dr. Sandusky was already a legend. He is a remarkable orthodontist, a recognized leader in many areas of his life, a selfless professor, a loyal and generous alumnus, and, above all, an exceptional gentleman.”

If you would like to recognize an employee of UTHSC who has exemplified commitment and dedication, nominations for the Thomas C. Lichterman Employee of the Year Award are currently being accepted for full-time, non-exempt faculty and staff members. The deadline to nominate is August 26.

Centennial Festivities Hit UTHSC

It all began in 1911, with the merger of several Tennessee medical units into the University of Tennessee Medical Units in Memphis. Now, 100 years later, UTHSC continues our commitment to research, education, clinical care and public service. The university has planned a series of celebrations to mark this momentous occasion.

On Saturday, September 17, UTHSC will hold its Centennial Gala on the Memphis campus. The speaker for the evening will be NASA astronaut and UTHSC alumnus Rhea Seddon, MD. Entertainment will be provided by Memphis’ own Joyce Cobb. A portion of the funds from the gala will benefit the Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute, which operates in partnership with the UT Health Science Center and UTHSC student scholarships.

The festivities don’t stop there! On September 18, the Centennial 5K will take place on campus.

Throughout 2011, UTHSC salutes the past and celebrates a promising future. Check out the UTHSC Centennial Web site at www.uthsc.edu/100 to stay up to date on all the centennial festivities.

UTHSC Trustee Honored at Vision Awards

From left: Mayor Mark Luttrell, Gary Prosterman from Memphis Commerce Square Partners, Bobbi Gillis, chair of Downtown Memphis Commission, Karl Schledwitz, Gail Schledwitz, Mayor A C Wharton, Jr., John Pontius from Memphis Commerce Square Partners, and Terry Lynch from Memphis Commerce Square Partners

On July 21, Governor Haslam was in the Bluff City at the Downtown Memphis Commission’s (formerly known as the Center City Commission) Annual Vision Awards luncheon. He addressed a full forum of guests at The Peabody Hotel Ballroom. Two recipients of this year’s Vision Award were UTHSC Memphis Trustee Karl Schledwitz and his wife Gail. Along with the other members of Memphis One Commerce Square Partners, LLC, they were lauded for their efforts to find and conglomerate the funding required to purchase One Commerce Square, keeping the building revenue in Memphis. Plus, Schledwitz persuaded Pinnacle Airlines to become the anchor tenant of the iconic 31-story tower. More than 650 Pinnacle employees will be moving into their corporate headquarters in downtown Memphis during early August.
UT College of Medicine - Chattanooga

29th Annual Research Awards Bestowed

The UT College of Medicine at Chattanooga (UTCOMC) and Erlanger Health System presented this year’s Research Week, April 11 to 15. This event, which dates back to 1983, was the vision of Robert Coddington, MD, chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and the first associate dean for the Chattanooga Campus. Research posters were on display in the Erlanger Medical Mall Atrium all week, and included 13 case study posters, five research posters, and five oral presentations.

The Scientific Review Committee served as the abstract selection committee for this year’s presentations. Poster rounds and selected oral presentations were held at the end of the week, which culminated with the presentation of awards at dinner at the Walden Club on Friday evening.

Awards were presented by dean David C. Seaberg, MD. The top research award was presented to Alicia Andrews, DO (PGY 3, Pediatrics) for her research titled, “The Impact of the Rotavirus Vaccines on Pediatric Hospitalizations at Erlanger Hospital.” Dr. Andrews will be presenting a talk to the UTCOMC residents at the Nuts and Bolts Research Symposium on August 26. She will describe her methodology and process for completing a successful research project.

Judges for the event were James Neutens, PhD, dean and professor, UT Graduate School of Medicine; Dr. Robert Fore, EdD, associate dean for Academic Affairs and Continuing Medical Education, and professor of Internal Medicine; and Mel W. Twiest, MD, clinical associate professor in the UTCOMC Department of Surgery.

UTCOMC extends special thanks to them for volunteering their time and expertise. Congratulations to all who participated in this notable College of Medicine event. A full list of winners is available at http://www.utcomchat.org/docs/20116_COMmunicator.pdf.

Robert Fore, EdD, Recognized for Lifetime Achievement

Robert Fore, EdD, associate dean for Academic Affairs and Continuing Medical Education, and professor of Internal Medicine at the UTCOMC, was recognized with the University of Georgia 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding success and significant impact in his field. He was recognized at a Faculty and Alumni Awards Luncheon on April 21, 2011, at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens.

Dr. Fore is also emeritus director of the Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education. His additional leadership positions include associate executive director of the Florida Medical Association, executive editor of the Journal of the Florida Medical Association, as well as associate dean for Graduate and Continuing Medical Education and professor of Medical Education at Mercer University School of Medicine.

UT Health Science Center - Knoxville

Doctors Bring Medical Care to Isolated Haitian Villages

Wayne Smith, MD, anesthesiology resident, hiked for more than an hour to the remote mountain village of Medor, Haiti, to provide medical care following the January 2010 earthquake there. Dr. Smith was on a mission trip with Remote Area Medical (RAM), a nonprofit, volunteer, airborne relief corps that serves throughout the world providing free health, dental and eye care.

Supplies for the medical clinic included fluids, IVs, and medications such as pain relievers. The medical team was prepared to treat cholera but only treated two confirmed cases of the intestinal infection.

However, there were hundreds of people in Medor seeking medical care. One case that made an impact on Dr. Smith involved Saint Luke, a boy who had burned his hand. He had been keeping his hand wrapped in a towel for the past year after it was burned during the earthquake.

“Saint Luke, his case was really the most impacting both here and at home,” Dr. Smith said. “I scraped the scab and it looked like healthy tissue underneath. Bone infection was not apparent, but we didn’t have the means to check for infection. We wondered what else to do.

“We are continuing to try to get Saint Luke to the U.S. We are having passport and visa issues. Neither he nor his mother has a birth certificate. We think we have the doctor and hospital side of things worked out. We have been raising money, and we hope to save his hand.”

Our clinic in Bouly was held in a church. It was actually a roof held up by poles with a couple of chairs. People sat on logs waiting in line to be seen. We saw two to 300 people. We would give interviews, check vitals, give out the medications that we had. It’s neat what they are doing in Bouly, but there’s not a lot they can do and the Partners in Health hospital is four hours away.

One case that stood out for Dr. Smith involved a man who was carried to Bouly by a group of 16 people on a homemade stretcher. The man had severe abdominal pain, his blood pressure was low, and he was dehydrated. Dr. Smith said they gave him some hydration solution and told him he needed to go to Boucan Carre for help.

“Ann Curry with “Dateline” on NBC followed the mission trip to Medor, featuring the medical clinic in “Rescue in the Mountains.”

At approximately the same time Dr. Wayne Smith was serving in Medor, Lou Smith, MD, associate professor, Surgery, was also doing mission work in a remote area of Haiti. Originally destined for Boucan Carre on a Partners in Health mission trip, Dr. Lou Smith ended up hiking four hours over mountainous terrain to provide medical care with a small team in Bouly.

“Our clinic in Bouly was held in a church. It was actually a roof held up by poles with a couple of chairs,” Dr. Lou Smith said. “People sat on logs waiting in line to be seen. We saw two to 300 people. We would give interviews, check vitals, give out the medications that we had. It’s neat what they are doing in Bouly, but there’s not a lot they can do and the Partners in Health hospital is four hours away.

One case that stood out for Dr. Smith involved a man who was carried to Bouly by a group of 16 people on a homemade stretcher. The man had severe abdominal pain, his blood pressure was low, and he was dehydrated. Dr. Smith said they gave him some hydration solution and told him he needed to go to Boucan Carre for help.

“We left the following day and saw him in Boucan Carre. It turns out he had cirrhosis. It was amazing to me that his family and friends walked about 50 miles carrying him,” she said.

Dr. Lou Smith regularly participates in missions in third-world areas.
The Neuroscience Institute hosted two major events in the spring: the Brain Awareness Symposium and the Brain Trauma Symposium. Both events brought leaders in the neuroscience field to the area to discuss current findings and issues.

Matthew Ennis, PhD, chairman, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and K.J.S. Anand, MMBS, PhD, division chief, Critical Care Medicine at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, spoke on the topic of “How Pain and Stress In Infancy Shape Our Perceptions and Consciousness” at the annual Brain Awareness Symposium held at the Urban Child Institute on March 24. They presented data from both animal and human studies, which show that pain sensations develop very early in life. Furthermore, studies show that newborns have relatively low thresholds for pain and that experiences during development alter their perceptions of pain. The event was open to the public and attended by a number of people working with children in Memphis as well as UTHSC faculty, students and staff.

Moderator William Armstrong, PhD, director of the Neuroscience Institute, stated that Dr. Ennis and Dr. Anand “presented compelling data that will lead to better pain management for surgery in premature and early neonates, as well as for other potentially painful procedures such as immunizations.”

While the Brain Awareness Symposium concerned the neuroscience of pain management in babies, the Brain Trauma Symposium: Hidden Risks of Sports Concussions, focused on traumatic brain injury in athletes. Chris Nowinski, president of the Sports Legacy Institute in Boston, former Harvard football player and WWE wrestler, along with Robert Stern, PhD, director, Clinical Core, Boston University (BU) Alzheimer's Disease Center and co-director, Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy at BU, addressed the treatment and prevention of brain injuries associated with sports concussions. Concussions, and even sub-concussive events when repeated, can lead to memory loss, depression, and neurodegenerative conditions later in life. Many regional athletic trainers, athletes and coaches, as well as UTHSC faculty, students and staff, attended this event, held at the University of Memphis on April 28. Tony Reiner, PhD, co-director of the Neuroscience Institute, moderated the symposium.

Both events were featured in The Commercial Appeal and in coverage on local television news programs.

The floods of 2011 were a trying time for the city of Memphis. Waters had not risen with such intensity since the Great Flood of 1927. Trees were down, power was out, and homes were heavily flooded. However, that did not stop the city of Memphis or the people of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center from banding together and pitching in to help with relief efforts.

One major task given was to place sandbags among historical landmarks such as the Pyramid in Downtown Memphis.

“It was a pleasant environment and I was able to meet people from various walks of life who had the same intentions — bettering and helping the community,” said Valvarie Jordan, employment recruiter for UTHSC and participant in the relief efforts, who felt great about pitching in and representing the Health Science Center. “A lot of team work took place. Everyone helped each other without being told what needed to be done.”

For those who had been victims of the flooding, the UTHSC Department of Psychiatry offered free counseling sessions for children and adults. The goal of the counseling was to help victims cope with the stress from a disaster as well as depression in order to rebuild their lives.

The university opened the doors of the Goodman Family Residence Hall for faculty, staff, and students displaced by the floods. The 150-bed housing facility offered victims a suite in the residence hall complete with four bedrooms, two baths, a living room area and a small kitchen.

Employment recruiter Valvarie Jordan joins in the sandbagging efforts on the Mississippi River after the May 2011 floods.
**Transplant Institute Receives Bronze Organ Donation Medal of Honor**

The Mid-South Transplant Foundation (MSTF) presented Methodist University Hospital with its first Bronze Organ Donation Medal of Honor on Thursday, June 23.

The award recognized Methodist’s efforts in organ donation, which included sustaining a 75 percent donation rate of eligible donors in 2010.

“We are fortunate to have Methodist University Hospital as an active and successful organ donation partner and we thank and recognize the many nurses, physicians, administrators, chaplains, social workers, respiratory therapists, OR staff and others who work to ensure that the organ donation process works smoothly and the gift of life given by organ donors and donor families is honored,” said Kim Van Frank, executive director, MSTF.

Partnering with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute is dedicated to improving the quality of life and the life expectancy for transplant patients through research breakthroughs, excellence in surgical techniques, and meticulous post-operative care.

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**Storm Shelter Registry To Aid Responders**

People who have installed storm shelters or safe rooms at their homes or businesses need to register them with the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

“This has been a record-breaking year for severe storms. As a result, many people throughout Shelby County have installed storm shelters. And that’s created a unique problem. Fallen debris could block the shelter doors and leave people trapped,” said Bob Nations, Jr., director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

Emergency dispatchers will use the registry to notify firefighters, paramedics, emergency management personnel and other responders to check specific addresses where shelters have been installed.

Shelter owners can register their addresses with the Shelby County Office of Preparedness by e-mail at www.staysafeshelby.us. Look for the “Residential Storm Shelter Registry” on the home page. The registry will allow only by agency personnel and not be shared with other agencies, businesses or the public.

For more information, contact Director Nations at (901) 515-2525.

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**Centers of Excellence, Economic Impact Highlighted**

The Summer 2011 issue of Frontiers magazine features the five Centers of Excellence at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville, including Brain and Spine Institute; Cancer Institute; Center for Women & Children’s Health; Emergency and Trauma Services; and Heart Lung Vascular Institute.

The summer issue also includes a special pull-out section depicting the economic impact of the University of Tennessee Medical Center and UT Graduate School of Medicine, which together generated almost $615 million within the state in overall economic impact in 2009.

This issue of Frontiers is available in print and online at http://gsm.utmck.edu/news/frontiers.cfm.

To request a copy, contact the UT Graduate School of Medicine at (865) 305-9190, or visit http://gsm.utmck.edu/news/frontiers.cfm to be added to the mail list.

Frontiers magazine is a publication for alumni and friends. It is produced by the University of Tennessee Medical Center and UT Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, which form the region’s only academic medical center.

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**Movie Biz Goes After Copyright Violators**

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) has announced plans to begin sending UTHSC administrators notices of copyright violations occurring over the campus’ network.

The Act, known as “HEOA,” requires UTHSC to implement measures against unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material as a condition for receiving student aid.

Information about UTHSC’s compliance program can be found on the campus website at http://library.uthsc.edu/reference/copyright. You can get audio-visual content legally. A directory of legal sources is published on the Web by Educause at http://www.educause.edu/legalcontent. The content includes music, video and even TV programs.

For more information, contact ITS Computer Security: Security@uthsc.edu or (901) 448-2222.

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Reprinted from Methodist Le Bonheur OneVision Newsletter
Real Life CSI at the Summer Science Institute

In most cases, an individual's junior and senior years in high school are often the most indecisive times of his or her life. Where to go to college and what kind of career to choose can seem like overwhelming decisions. This is the reason why summer camps such as UTHSC's Summer Science Institute (SSI) are in place.

SSI, which is sponsored through the Health Careers Program Office, is a free two-week event for incoming junior and senior high school students. Students participate in everything from classroom lectures to experiential learning activities. They also gain exposure to academic programs at the Health Science Center.

"Through the Summer Science Institute, UTHSC is uniquely able to encourage students in our community to pursue health careers by making science interactive, creative and engaging," said Constance Tucker, educational coordinator for Student Academic Support Services and director of the Summer Science Institute.

"Students are given the opportunity to interact with practitioners, professional students, and a diverse group of their peers from around the city while increasing their knowledge and interest in math, science and health disparities. We are achieving the UTHSC mission to bring the benefits of the health sciences to our area through education and public service."

Along with providing information to the students about general and health sciences, they participated in activities such as lipstick chromatography, where lipstick is analyzed to discover the manufacturer in order to find a suspect, and forensic science. There was even an entire lab day devoted to fingerprint analyses. During the lab exercise titled Modus Operandi, students were given the opportunity to leave fingerprint evidence and then use different techniques to collect the samples left on different types of surfaces. In order to compare and contrast the realities of forensic investigation, the students watched an episode of CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, and then visited the Shelby County Regional Forensic Center for a real life peek at the job.

"Our students really enjoy the fingerprint analysis lab because they frequently see detectives on TV dusting for fingerprints and love imitating the art," said Terrica Thornton, second-year pharmacy student and instructor of the fingerprinting lab. "However, by participating in this lab, they often find that collecting fingerprint evidence can sometimes be harder than it looks on TV."

Ashish Nathani, senior at Memphis University School, said that he enjoyed the camp because it "gave him an opportunity to work in a lab setting and apply knowledge previously unknown."

Rachel Moore, junior at St. Agnes Academy, said "I have an interest in biology and this program seemed really interesting. It has definitely led me to thinking about a potential career in the field."

With that being said, it looks as though the Summer Science Institute is holding true to its purpose: to educate and inspire one student at a time.

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Big Changes Coming to Blackboard

Blackboard is getting a facelift and an update! It's going to be a very different experience for students, faculty and other users of the program effective in January 2012.

UTHSC is moving from Blackboard version 8 to version 9, and while things will improve with the new program, some items will be removed or changed. The Digital Dropbox will no longer exist in the new version, and the features of Assignments, Grade Center, Groups, and Tests areas will change. New items such as blogs, journals, wikis, and customized content presentations will be added to the program to increase functionality for users.

Beginning in September, the Department of Educational Technology will start offering training opportunities such as lunch sessions, face-to-face computer lab courses, short online video tutorials, and interactive Web conferencing to help UTHSC become acclimated to the new version. There will also be a test environment so Blackboard users can start experiencing the new look and feel.


Crisis Center Accepts $50,000 Challenge

The Assisi Foundation of Memphis, Inc., has issued the UTHSC-affiliated Richard G. Garmer & Allen O. Battle Crisis Center a challenge: raise $50,000 in funds this year, and the Assisi Foundation will match it dollar for dollar. As a small, volunteer-based organization, it is important for the community to help the Crisis Center meet its goal by the January 2012 deadline.

Along with the Crisis Line, the Crisis Center also administers the Senior-B-Safe Line, the Ryan White HIV Care Line, and is the local affiliate of National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

You can help meet the Assisi Challenge and support your local Crisis Center by going to www.crisis7.org to make a donation. Also, throughout the month of August, the Medical Center Deli, at the corner of Pauline and Jefferson, will be having a Crisis Center Challenge Day, every Tuesday donating 10 percent of its daily earnings toward the Assisi Challenge. Mary Anne Nichols, the owner of the Medical Center Deli, is also a Crisis Center volunteer.

The Crisis Center is a proud partner of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and has facilities located on the UTHSC campus.
First Paired Kidney Transplant Performed

The Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute (MUHTI), in partnership with UTHSC, formed an alliance with the National Kidney Registry (NKR) to help save additional lives in Memphis. This program, called paired donor transplantation, allows MUHTI patients who do not have a compatible living kidney donor to be paired with another patient who also does not have a compatible living donor. These patients “SWAP” donors so they each have a compatible kidney donor and they can each receive the life-saving organ they need. Tennessee’s first-ever paired kidney transplants took place on June 28 at Methodist Hospital.

MUHTI said it’s the only transplant program in Tennessee doing paired donations.

“We feel this is an excellent opportunity for patients who need a kidney transplant and who do not have a compatible living donor to find the donor match they need significantly faster,” said Luis Campos, MD, MUHTI kidney program surgical director. “Paired donor transplantation dramatically decreases the time it takes for NKR patients to receive a kidney and allows the patient to receive a closely matched kidney for the best outcome.”

“The beauty of a living donor program is that it brings together the human elements of altruism, trust and cooperation,” said Dr. Vinaya Rao, medical director of the MUHTI Kidney Transplant Program. “It can be very satisfying to be a part of that.”

The registry so far has facilitated nearly 300 transplants with a 100 percent success rate.
Research, Education:
Top Issues at Faculty Address

Chancellor Steve Schwab gave the annual report on the financial state and future plans for UTHSC at the May Faculty Senate Meeting.

Chancellor Schwab focused on the features of UTHSC that make it a unique university, including our statewide educational span and high educational standards. The Physiology program now ranks third nationally in the country and the Neurobiology program ranks in the Top 10.

In 2010, almost every college expanded the size of its classes. The number of residents and fellows reached record numbers as well. Despite the increased number of students, graduates still registered in the high 90 percent in board exams and licensures. All of the colleges on campus are fully accredited and for the maximum amount of time possible.

In regards to the future of education, Chancellor Schwab is looking to offer more programs on campus. He has asked each college dean to consider admitting more qualified candidates into their programs.

UTHSC finances were the second major issue Chancellor Schwab addressed. Funds from the state went down 10 percent over the past year; however, this was an expected drop, so the colleges were able to prepare for it in advance. State funds will continue to decrease but the campus is now earning more dollars from research and clinical revenues have gone up. Philanthropy has also been strong: BlueCross BlueShield gave $3 million to help build a campus-wide simulation center, and the Plough Foundation is helping to fund the new drug discovery center.

Despite the increases in research grants and philanthropy, UTHSC did increase tuition campus-wide in June. The actual amount of the increase varies depending on the college. However, the university still ranks as one of the most affordable educational institutions for advanced health care learning.

Chancellor Schwab stated that the university must adapt to earning more dollars to fund the campus, because it is likely that state funds to the school will not rebound. In this regard, UTHSC will begin to partner with hospitals and joint ventures to receive better contracting rates and better technical revenue. For the first time, UTHSC is receiving academic payment from partner hospitals in the area.

The future holds continued recruitment and branding on the part of the university. Several colleges are searching for new leaders, especially leaders with a background in research. The campus will also continue to brand itself as a leader in health care in the Memphis community.

Optimization, Functionality
Goal of Banner User Group

The integration of the new Banner system continues with vigor as departments work continuously to update the campus-wide system so that it works optimally for students, staff and faculty alike.

Although the functionality of Banner is increasing, some issues still remain. The Banner User Group, the managing committee for Banner, meets twice a month to address concerns. Currently, the following issues are being expediently addressed: Medicine clerkships, Pharmacy rotations, GPA calculations, college-specific reports, and registration issues.

“The Banner User Group and the offices of Enrollment Services and IT would like to thank the members of UTHSC for their continued patience while we work through this learning curve in our efforts to make Banner function for our needs,” said Michael Miles, EdD, Banner project manager and director for Student Affairs.

In the coming months, students will be prompted to update their current and mailing addresses through the Banner system on a regular basis. This will ensure that faculty and staff will always have updated information in case they need to contact students regarding emergencies, transcripts, registration and other pertinent matters.

Fee payments may go mobile in the next few years. The Banner User Group is researching mobile application programs, which would allow students to pay tuition, fees and fines through their cell phones. Also on the horizon is the ability to request a transcript through the National Student Clearinghouse rather than through Banner. Students will be able to request and have transcripts sent simply by filling out an online application form.

As Banner continues to grow and change, it is important for students, staff and faculty to e-mail questions or concerns to banner@uthsc.edu. Please be as specific as possible if you are having problems with the new system. You can also call the Office of Enrollment Services at (901) 448-5560.

SAVE THE DATE – September 16, 2011

Wine Down Reception
Soulsville/Stax Museum

Celebrate African-American Achievements at UTHSC!
Come enjoy tasty hors d’oeuvres, live music, and a tour of the Stax Museum.

Cost: $20/ticket for UTHSC faculty, staff, and alumni;
$15/ticket for UTHSC students

For more information, call (901) 448-2112 or e-mail hsc-ood@uthsc.edu
Annual CHEER Conference Promotes Health Equality

In June, the Consortium for Health Education, Economic Empowerment and Research (CHEER) held its annual three-day conference to promote health equality among minority communities.

The 2011 Conference theme was “Empowering Communities to Create a Healthy Village.” Local and national health practitioners and officials gathered to hear speakers including Brian Smedly, PhD, vice president and director of the Health Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., and Alvin Poussaint, MD, psychiatrist, author, and co-author with Bill Cosby, PhD, of “Come on People: On the Path from Victims to Victors.”

Additionally, Leon Caldwell, PhD, was recognized for his research and work in Memphis. Dr. Caldwell founded the Advancement of Youth Development at Rhodes College, where he received his doctorate. He also assisted the Think Tank for African-American progress and worked as a lead evaluator for the Just Care Family Network, which counsels youth who have emotional or behavioral issues.

Led by UTHSC, CHEER is a partnership between seven member organizations, which include LeMoyne-Owen College, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare, the Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, Memphis Housing Authority, First Baptist Church Lauderdale, and Mustard Seed, Inc. This year’s CHEER conference was also co-sponsored by Healthy Memphis Common Table, the Assisi Foundation of Memphis, Inc., and Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital.

Gavel Passed at Faculty Senate

With new opportunities on the horizon for UTHSC, it’s an exciting time for the UTHSC Faculty Senate to elect new officers. In May, Lawrence M. Brown, PhD, PharmD, vice-chair, department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of Graduate Studies in Health Outcomes and Policy Research, was elected to replace Richard Nollan, associate professor of Library Sciences for the 2011-2012 year. New senators were also elected to represent their respective colleges, and a new president-elect and secretary were also chosen.

The executive committee is composed of elected officers of the Faculty Senate and at least one representative from each of the colleges. The primary duty of an elected member is to represent the needs of their constituency in an effort to foster community and a unified position amongst the colleges.

Over the past year, the Faculty Senate was represented in the search for a new College of Pharmacy dean and College of Medicine executive dean. Representatives of the Faculty Senate were also integral in the Faculty Affairs Work Group.

The 2011-2012 faculty Senate officers are Lawrence Brown, president; Richard Nollan, past president; Thaddeus Wilson, PhD, president-elect; and Richard Smith, PhD, secretary-treasurer.

iPhone App Helps Smokers Kick the Habit

The Department of Preventive Medicine has released a new iPhone App to help smokers break the smoking habit permanently. The Quit Forever App, developed by UTHSC smoking-cessation experts, is a complete program based on years of research. The app offers easy step-by-step instructions and proven strategies that help smokers stop smoking and stay tobacco free for life. The app explains factors such as how to: deal with tension, take FDA-approved smoking-cessation medicines, move beyond triggers that lead to smoking, and connect with support services like telephone-quit lines and online help.

“The app is our way of translating what we know works to promote health into social media and technology trends of today,” said Karen C. Johnson, MD, MPH, professor and interim chair of the UTHSC Department of Preventive Medicine.

Using the app along with FDA-approved smoking-cessation medicine makes it easier for anyone to quit smoking, not just temporarily, but forever. The “My Health” section of the app provides important information about the health benefits of quitting and the health effects of cigarette smoke, including the effects of second-hand smoke. When preparing to quit, the app section titled, “My 5 A Plan,” explains how to survive the first days as a nonsmoker using the words: avoid, alter, anticipate, anticipate and activate. The “My 5 A Plan” is just one of the easily remembered strategies to help smokers fight various smoking triggers and stay tobacco free.

On May 24, the Tennessee Legislature signed an academic achievement resolution honoring the inaugural class of the UTHSC Master of Science in the Clinical Nurse Leader (MSN-CNL) Program. The resolution states the class is comprised of individuals that “truly epitomize the spirit of nursing, and their dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation.”

The resolution recognized the hard work and dedication required to complete 80 credits of class, while also completing more than 1,200 clinical hours. Students from the MSN-CNL program attended the Tennessee Nursing Association Legislative Day in Nashville in April, where they spoke with Representative John J. DeBerry about the program and their achievements. The class made quite an impression, as DeBerry became the sponsor for the resolution.

There were 49 students in the inaugural class. Congratulations to them for making UTHSC history.

Donna K. Hathaway, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing, reads the state resolution recognizing the first MSN-CNL program at the Nursing Convocation in May.

Donna K. Hathaway, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing, reads the state resolution recognizing the first MSN-CNL program at the Nursing Convocation in May.
The inaugural class of the MSN-CNL Professional Entry Program honored the memory of classmate Chaundra Sanders at the graduation convocation held in May.

On December 21, 2009, 26-year-old Sanders passed away in a fatal car accident. Students in the program remember her as a warm, outgoing young woman who always had a smile and a passion for nursing.

To ensure that Sander’s influence over patient care continues, the MSN-CNL students started a $25,000 endowment scholarship fund in Sanders’ name. Donna K. Hathaway, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing, presented Sanders’ mother Patsy Quinn with a plaque in honor of the endowment.

“With God’s help and thanks to the faculty and staff of the University of Tennessee, we, the family of Chaundra Sanders, have reached a milestone in remembrance of our dear loved one. You’ve made it a fruitful and memorable year through your kind gesture at this year’s graduation, by posthumously recognizing my daughter,” said Quinn.

The award was the first to be established for students, by students, in honor of a student in the College of Nursing. In addition to the plaque given to Mrs. Quinn, a permanent plaque will hang in the College of Nursing main office.

Fresh Ideas Flourish at Graduate Health Research Day

The UT College of Graduate Health Sciences held its 2011 Graduate Research Day on April 29 in the General Education Building lobby.

Elizabeth Webb, MA, coordinator in Graduate Health Sciences, stated, “Graduate Research Day is a showcase for fresh ideas and new discoveries, highlighting our graduate students’ vital contribution to the health sciences. Their work energizes the biomedical hub here, driving research forward and building new bridges from lab to clinic to community.”

Thirty-seven students from five graduate programs presented posters which covered a variety of research topics such as: characterization of homeless individuals in Shelby County, risk factors for the development of atypical glandular cells of the cervix, and C290 effects of vascular smooth muscle cell phenotype and MMP-9 expression.

Bintu Marong, in the Epidemiology Department, won in the first- and second-year student group for the poster titled, “Characterization of Homeless Individuals in Shelby County, Tennessee.” The purpose of the study was to determine the correlations that affected homelessness to help service providers better assist homeless individuals. She was assisted in her project by Pamela D. Connor, PhD.

The Integrated Biomedical Sciences Program had two winners of the day. From the third-year student group, Kelly Andrews won with the project “TLRs 2 and 9 Contribute to Neutrophil Recruitment and the Th17 Response in Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis.” The project was supported by the National Institutes of Health. Her mentor on the project was Elizabeth A. Fitzpatrick, PhD. In the fourth-year and above student group, Timothy Sullivan won for the project “Gene Delivery of Erythropoietin Protects Retinal Ganglion Cells in DBA/2J Glaucomatous Mice.” The study examined the loss of neurons in neurodegenerative diseases such as glaucoma. His mentor was Eldon E. Geisert, PhD.

Monetary prizes were given to honor the best student posters/presentations, selected by judges from the College of Graduate Health Sciences. Congratulations to the winners and to those who participated in making this event a success.
Student Presents Funded NIH-Study

As summer jobs go, it was certainly a resume enhancer.

Charles Allderdice of Signal Mountain, who had just finished his first year of medical school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, was selected to participate in a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant study last summer. He presented his team’s findings over the winter at the Southern regional meeting of the American Federation for Medical Research in New Orleans and had an abstract of the study listed in the February issue of the Journal of Investigative Medicine.

“There are certain doctors on the UT faculty [who] are involved with studies the NIH helped fund,” he said. “You have to apply, make a proposal and then be approved.”

Karl T. Weber, MD, the Neuton Stern Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and director of the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s College of Medicine, led the studies.

Of approximately 150 first-year students in the medical school, Weber said, perhaps 40 apply for research positions. Of those, perhaps 20 are selected.

“They get to do a little bit of everything,” including doing hands-on work and learning research methodology, he said. “They’re also expected to read the relevant literature that supports their story.”

The studies Allderdice applied to be a part of were related to the cardiology field.

“It’s an interest of mine,” he said, “but I’m still open to anything.”

The studies involved the drugs quercetin and carvedilol to determine whether the individual drugs would prevent “any acute [heart] stress event” a patient might suffer while undergoing surgery.

Allderdice said the drugs aren’t new but hadn’t been studied for their effect on such stress events.

He said that quercetin, an antioxidant, is already available at retail outlets such as GNC and that carvedilol, a beta blocker, is being used to treat some heart problems.

Although the studies with rats indicated positive responses to both drugs, no immediate changes are expected because of the results, Allderdice noted.

“There will be more studies that involve the drugs,” he said.

Dr. Weber said Allderdice was selected to present the study on quercetin at the Southern regional meeting of the American Federation for Medical Research and received a travel award to fund his expenses for the trip.

Fellow student Brian Cohen presented the study on carvedilol.

Allderdice is a 2004 graduate of McCallie School and a 2008 graduate in health sciences from the University of Alabama-Birmingham. The rising third-year medical student is currently doing medical rotations at Erlanger hospital.

Original print in The Chattanooga Times Free Press
By Clint Cooper
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Annual Clinicians Ceremony Welcomes New Residents

At the 2011 Student Clinician’s Ceremony, sponsored by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, Inc., and held April 29 in the Student-Alumni Center, the outgoing M3s recognized residents for their excellence in teaching while the upcoming M3s crossed over to the world of clinicians.

The Class of 2012 selected six residents from across all three Health Science Center campuses to receive the Arnold P. Gold Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award. This award signifies the impact these residents have had on the outgoing M3s as they looked to them as role models. The residents included: Michael Bahr, MD, general surgery; Kyle Cunningham, MD, general surgery (Chattanooga); Brian Freeman, MD, general surgery (Knoxville); Daniel N. Ginn, DO, obstetrics and gynecology; Weronica Horembala, MD, obstetrics and gynecology; and Regan Williams, MD, general surgery.

At the same event, the upcoming M3s, or Class of 2013, officially began their entry into clinical training by taking the Student Doctor of Medicine Pledge. For the past two years, these students have studied and trained in the classroom and are now beginning their clinical rotations for hands-on experience as they see patients under faculty and resident supervision.

Search for Vice Chancellor Suspended

On July 21, Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, officially suspended the search for the UTHSC Vice Chancellor of Research and released the candidates advanced by the search committee.

With the new significant leadership changes in the College of Medicine and the College of Pharmacy, and with the close relationship each of them must have with the new Vice Chancellor of Research, Chancellor Schwab stated in an e-mail to the campus that he would rather wait until both are in place rather than chance a mismatch in strategies or personalities. He also noted that this decision did not reflect the search process nor the candidates selected as finalists.

Until the search for the new Vice Chancellor resumes, David Stern, MD, executive dean of the College of Medicine, will take over as interim vice chancellor for Research effective immediately.

Share Your Thoughts With Us!

The Communications and Marketing Department would like to know what you think about The Record. We are asking everyone to please take a moment and fill out a short survey about The Record and give us any suggestions you may have on ways to improve it. Visit our Web page at http://www.uthsc.edu/news and click on the link that says Record Survey.

If you would like to submit stories for the October-November issue of The Record, send stories and photos to elink@uthsc.edu, and we will try to include the items.
Dental Hygiene's Winning YouTube Ways

UTHSC's dental hygiene class of 2012 is definitely rockin' out after learning they had the winning entry for a YouTube music video contest sponsored by the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA). Participating students were asked to make a video that showcased why or their group were excited to attend the 2011 meeting of the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL). UTHSC’s entry, titled “Headed for the ADHA,” is a fun and laughter-evoking music video that shows students in various locations such as classrooms, hallways and on the road excitedly anticipating and preparing for the event. The group received a $500 VISA gift card for their winning entry.

“I’m so proud of the dental hygiene students for producing such a fun video and for promoting UTHSC in this way,” said Noma Anderson, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences. “I knew that they are top-notch students, but the degree of creativity and production know-how are talents that I didn’t know they had.”

This winning video showed at the Plenary Session and Awards Presentation during the conference. The students received a standing ovation following the video presentation. To watch the award-winning video, go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FP9wOtgVdqg

Student Spotlight

Special Needs Hit Home for OT Student

When asked to describe Laura Barnhill, a second-year Master of Occupational Therapy student at UTHSC, Christine Peters, PhD, OTR/L, chair of Occupational Therapy in the College of Allied Health Sciences wrote:

“Laura Barnhill represents the best of occupational therapy at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She is passionate about occupational therapy and understands it as both a graduate student and mother of special needs children. She knows how daily occupations or simple things in life, like a child playing, or a grandmother baking cookies, or a person brushing their hair, are not that simple when a person faces physical or emotional disabilities.”

When she isn’t framing her children’s latest pieces of artwork, Barnhill is completing the fieldwork portion of her program at the Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Her focus is on transitional programming. In this discipline, participants focus on community reintegration in order to gain new skills that will prepare them to return to the workforce.

Prior to entering the Occupational Therapy Program, Barnhill served the state of Arkansas as a foster parent. She and her husband of 13 years, Rev. Billy Barnhill, are the parents of five children, three with special needs. Barnhill gave birth to Aeris, Jack, and Ian who is severely autistic. They also have hand-picked siblings with special needs to adopt: Josh, who has reactive attachment disorder, and Brianna, who suffers from developmental delays. Josh was a student of Barnhill’s whom she met while working as a counselor. Before becoming members of the Barnhill family, Josh and Brianna had been through three failed adoptions.

“I knew Josh was special. There was an attachment there that I could not deny,” she said.

Barnhill has a wealth of experience in the area of special needs. She is very active in multiple organizations in Arkansas supporting the special needs of children, and has also worked as a children’s case manager at Mid-South Health Systems as well as an early childhood developmental specialist at Pediatric Day Clinic in Jonesboro, Ark. Barnhill has been involved with the Autism Association of Northeast Arkansas for several years and it was her volunteer efforts through them that led her to become the director of a grant-funded program at the Life Skills Center, a position she has held since 2005. The Life Skills Center is a nonprofit that serves children with special needs in northeast Arkansas by teaching pre-vocational and life skills at a younger age so children will have a greater chance of developing skills to lead an independent adult life.

Being an integral part of these organizations made Barnhill realize that her children, who were receiving occupational therapy services through the public school system, were not quite getting the care that she felt they deserved. This ignited her already existing passion for the discipline even more, leading her to enroll in the program at UTHSC.

As a student, Barnhill continues to stay involved in the Life Skills Center, currently serving as the president of its board. She also plays a very active role in the American Occupational Therapy Association, serving as the delegate for UTHSC at two national conferences. Barnhill also spent time with the

Lowenstein House, a mental health psychosocial rehabilitation facility in Memphis, and was involved in a research project at UTHSC that focused on the effects of vision and balance on daily activity. In the future, Barnhill believes that her education will help her succeed in raising her children to become functional adults. She also hopes to share her knowledge with others by opening her own private occupational therapy practice in a farm-based setting, reflective of her upbringing. In fact, Barnhill has stated that upon graduation, she plans to buy Josh a donkey, which he specifically requested, as a reward for helping her get through school.

With a splendid past and promising future, the presence that Barnhill has now simply cannot be overlooked. Lisa Tekell, MS, OTR/L, OTD, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy in the College of Allied Health Sciences, sums it up best:

“I have seen Laura time and again share her passion with individuals, whether it be helping future students, working in partnership with research partners, or providing service to community members. She is capable of making an amazing difference not only to the consumers she serves but also to the system surrounding the consumer. She is a rainmaker. She makes good things happen.”
PEOPLE

Pregnant nephrologist Russell Chesney, MD, received the 2011 John Howland Medal, the highest honor given by the American Pediatric Society. Dr. Chesney is the first recipient in Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital and UTHSC history. His nomination was supported by physicians across the country for his work as a clinician, educator, mentor, and advocate for children. His research has contributed to the fields of pediatric nutrition, nephrology, genetics and metabolism. Dr. Chesney’s research has given clinicians a better understanding of the amino acid taurine and its role in transport by renal epithelial cells. Dr. Chesney is the longest-standing Pediatrics Department chairman in the country, having served as chair at UTHSC since 1988.

Franklin Garcia-Godoy, DDS, MS, senior executive associate dean for Research and chair of the Department of Bioscience Research, was honored at the International Association for Dental Research (IADR)/American Association for Dental Research (IADR) joint meeting in San Diego, March 16-19, for his work as former president of the IADR/AADR Cariology Division. The award focused on his efforts to promote dental research worldwide.

James D. Eason, MD, FACS, professor of Surgery at UTHSC and director of the Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute, has been appointed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Organ Transplantation (ACOT) by Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. The Institute will make recommendations to Secretary Sebelius on issues concerning organ donation and transplantation. As director of the Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute since 2006, Dr. Eason has led the program to becoming a nationally recognized Center of Excellence for liver and kidney transplantations based on volume and outcomes. In 2009, Dr. Eason performed Apple CEO Steve Jobs’ liver transplant, which garnered further national acclaim. Dr. Eason will serve on the committee until 2015.

Max Fletcher, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was named among the 2011 Pew Scholars in the Biomedical Sciences by the Pew Charitable Trusts. He is one of 22 of America’s most promising scientists to receive the prestigious designation, which includes a research grant for $420,000 divided over a four-year period. As a Pew Scholar, Dr. Fletcher gains inclusion into a select group of scientists that includes three Nobel Prize winners, three MacArthur Fellows and two recipients of the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award. Dr. Fletcher’s research will examine the olfactory bulb, the first central olfactory structure in the brain in an effort to understand the neuronal mechanisms behind long-term changes in learning patterns. This will provide a useful model for investigating how neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer’s, have an impact on sensory perception, learning and memory. Dr. Fletcher received his PhD from the University of Oklahoma. He has been working at UTHSC since 2010.

Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, professor of Ophthalmology at the UT Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI), received the Cook Halle Award from Carnival Memphis at the 25th anniversary industry salute in May. Dr. Hamilton was selected for his dedication to helping patients and educating the next generation of physicians throughout his career, culminating in the creation of the HEI, established in 1991. The Cook Halle Award is the highest honor given by Carnival Memphis to recognize outstanding contributions to industry and community. Past honorees include such influential Memphians as Fred Smith, Jack Belz and Isaac Hayes. Dr. Hamilton received his medical degree here at the UT Health Science Center in 1952, and is currently a professor in the Department of Ophthalmology.

Feng Li, MS, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences received the 2010 Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-financed Chinese Students Study Abroad by China Scholarship Council (CSC). The merit-based, peer-reviewed award was founded by the Chinese government in 2003 to reward the academic excellence of self-financed Chinese students studying overseas by giving each winner $5,000 to support their studies. Since enrolling in the PhD program at UTHSC, Li has published nine research articles. His mentor was Ram I. Mahato, PhD.

Cesar Migliorati, DDS, PhD, professor and interim chair of the Department of Biologic and Diagnostic Sciences in the College of Dentistry, and the director of the Division of Oral Medicine, was appointed by the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer and International Society of Oral Oncology as the new chair of the Bone Complications study group. This group is responsible for the education of health care professionals in oncology about the maintenance of bone health in cancer patients, as well as prevention and management of skeletal complications caused by cancer and/or its therapy. The study group has been awarded a grant from Amgen to work in collaboration with MedScape, to produce educational programs aimed for medical oncologists, nurses, and pharmacists, on the importance of maintaining bone health in patients with breast and prostate cancer, and multiple myeloma.

Stephen Thomas Miller, MD, MACP, has been named the inaugural Robert S. Pearce Chair in Internal Medicine. In this new position, Dr. Miller will expand and develop programs between UTHSC and Methodist Hospital in medical education and patient care. In order to fulfill his appointment, Dr. Miller will step down from his role as senior vice president of Research and Education at Methodist University Hospital. Dr. Miller is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is a professor of medicine and vice chair of the Department of Medicine here at UTHSC, as well as an education leader at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) inducted Kenneth Sakauye, MD, as a Distinguished Life Fellow at the 2011 annual meeting for his years of active membership and work. Previously, Dr. Sakauye has been a Distinguished Fellow in the APA, former Chair of the APA Council on Aging, and received the APA Jack Weinberg Award in geriatrics. Dr. Sakauye is currently the director of geriatric psychiatry at UT Medical Group, Inc., and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, where he also serves as professor and co-chair of the Psychiatry Department.

J. Lacey Smith, MD, was appointed president and chief executive officer of UT Medical Group. Dr. Smith has been a long-time faculty member at UTHSC, where he currently serves as professor of medicine and was the interim dean for the College of Medicine. He has been UT Medical Group’s chief medical officer and executive vice president in 2008 under Steven H. Burket.

Carol Thompson, PhD, DNP, ACNP, FNP, FCCM, FAANP, professor of clinical and acute care nursing, received national recognition for 30 years of CRN certification. The certification advances a nurse’s clinical expertise in the care of critically ill patients and their families. It is one of the most advanced certifications in the field of nursing. Dr. Thompson joined UTHSC in 1988. She has been a clinical care nurse for more than 35 years.
Annual PhDA Workshop Highlights Career Development

On Friday April 29 the UTHSC Postdoctoral Association (PhDA) held its annual career development workshop. Howard G. Adams, PhD, of H.G. Adams and Associates gave two workshops: The Job Search Made Simple and Fundamentals for Managing the Postdoctoral Experience. In addition, individual and group career counseling were provided to postdocs. Dr. Adams’ keynote address was on Leadership Principles for Today’s Professionals.

The PhDA also awarded its first annual outstanding mentor award at the workshop. The winners were nominated by their respective postdocs. Megan Mulligan, PhD (pictured on the left), president of the PhDA, presented winners Anjaparavanda Naren, PhD (top), professor of Physiology and Robert Williams, PhD (bottom), professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and professor of Pediatrics, with certificates of recognition.

UTHSC PhDA was established in 2007 and sponsors research and career development seminars, an orientation program, research poster awards, travel awards for postdocs, as well as a variety of social events.

Healthy Smiles at Sisterhood Showcase

The College of Dentistry educated more than 700 citizens on the importance of oral health at the 16th Annual Sisterhood Outreach Summit and Showcase presented by Grace magazine in June.

Dental professionals and students screened approximately 600 attendees for dental problems and encouraged early treatment at the UTHSC Dental Care Clinic. An additional 100 attendees received instruction on proper dental care and health. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouth rinse, and, of course, dental floss were given out to all.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who made this event a success. For more information on the College of Dentistry patient care clinic, call (901) 448-6468.

Healthy Smiles at Sisterhood Showcase

On May 5, students, faculty and staff gathered to learn Japanese calligraphy in honor of Asian Pacific Heritage Month at the Student-Alumni Center.

Chikako Kamimura, calligraphy instructor at the University of Memphis, and Akemi Sommer, program manager of the Japanese-America Society of Tennessee-West at the University of Memphis, guided the students through the fundamentals of the ancient craft. Having received instruction on proper hand position and posture, students could practice their brush technique by writing out their name or a traditional saying in Kanji symbols.

UTHSC Celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month

UTHSC Welcomes New Dean

On May 5, students, faculty and staff gathered to learn Japanese calligraphy in honor of Asian Pacific Heritage Month at the Student-Alumni Center.

Chancellor Steve Schwab MD (left), celebrates the arrival of David M. Stern, MD (right), with cake and camaraderie.

Members of UTHSC faculty and staff welcomed new executive dean of the College of Medicine and interim vice chancellor of Research, David M. Stern, MD, at an internal reception on June 21.

“This is not Dr. Stern’s first rodeo,” said Chancellor Steve Schwab as he introduced his associate to the university. Dr. Stern has previously worked at the University of Cincinnati and the Medical College of Georgia where he increased the status of their medical programs.

Dr. Stern stated that he looks forward to working with the dedicated team of UTHSC and that he will strive to make the campus a place where people are excited to work.
Future professional football players attended the Offense-Defense camp, hosted by UTHSC and organized by the National Football League (NFL). The camp welcomed youth ages 7 to 14 who were trained by NFL coaches and players. High school students focused on position evaluation and video training, while younger campers learned basic techniques and skill for full contact play.

Faculty, students and staff joined the Nursing Student Government Association and UTHSC College of Nursing for a Bake Sale Fundraiser in the Madison Plaza Lobby in May. They raised $1,095 to support a DNP student whose house had major damage as a result of the April tornadoes. Special thanks to organizer Emily Mewborn in the College of Nursing, and patrons for their generosity and help in surpassing all expectations for the bake sale.

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Bake Sale Raises Funds For Tornado Victim

Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, (left) executive vice chancellor and chief operations officer, welcomes Christopher Dean (right) to campus. UTHSC volunteered to host Christopher Dean, who introduced President Barack Obama at the Booker T. Washington (BTW) commencement, and 20 other BTW college-bound graduates for the six-week education seminar. The Christopher Dean Education Foundation’s “Releasing the Butterfly” Summer SuperLearning Camp focused on improving and increasing reading, writing, language and math skills to help students transition into college courses. UTHSC donated supplies, space, lunches and printing services to the campers and facilitators of the learning camp.

Mayor A C Wharton, Jr., talks about helping those in trouble to find the light again at the National Suicide and the Black Church conference held at UTHSC in June.

Men’s Health Summit

Men and boys ages 12 and above gathered in the SAC for the 4th Annual Men’s Health Summit. The event was free to the public and included complimentary breakfast, lunch, gifts, health screenings, and motivational discussions. The event was sponsored by UTHSC and The Church Health Center.

Students enjoy face painting at Shelby Farms as part of the annual All Days are Happy Days Camp. The camp is open to children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to help develop their self-esteem and teach positive social behavior in a fun, entertaining setting.

Dean Brings Learning Camp to UTHSC

All Days Are Happy Days
One hundred years ago, no one could have ever imagined the Health Science Center would become the health care staple it is today. Considering its modest beginnings, the accolades and accomplishments are nothing short of remarkable. The achievements of UTHSC are highlighted in the new fact sheet entitled “A Centennial History: Marking a Century of Success.”

The College of Dentistry is credited as being the oldest dental school in the South, and the third oldest in the United States, which has trained 75 percent of practicing dentists in Tennessee. Seventy percent of Tennessee’s practicing physicians and notable alumni around the world have trained at the College of Medicine, which has graduated more than 13,400 since its founding. UTHSC is also home to the 16th nationally ranked pharmacy school out of more than 115 pharmacy schools, according to U.S. News and World Report. In addition, the university has been able to secure nearly $100 million every year for the past five years in research and sponsored projects funding. Find out more by picking up the new fact sheet which gives a brief, yet thorough look into our rich past and a glimpse into our promising future.

Excited to learn more? Review our Centennial Fact Sheet on the Communications and Marketing home page at http://www.uthsc.edu/news/publications/factsheet_centennial.pdf To order free copies of the fact sheet, contact Pam Looney at (901) 448-5544 or plooney@uthsc.edu.