Translational Science Research Building Groundbreaking

On June 8, Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, and UT President Joe DiPietro led the groundbreaking ceremony for the Translational Science Research Building (TSRB), the newest edition in UTHSC’s commitment to moving research developments into mainstream hospital use.

“This is a seminal event for our institution because it reflects two things,” Chancellor Schwab stated, “the UTHSC commitment to active research expansion, and this is the first in a series of new construction initiatives as we transform the UTHSC campus.”

The TSRB will be a four-story, 135,000-square-foot structure that reflects the same layout as the UTHSC Cancer Research Building. More than 40 investigators will be housed in the building, working on advances in heart and blood vessel disease.

Cooperation and connectivity were major factors in the design of laboratories, which will be open to allow labs to share common equipment. Elevated walkways on the second, third and fourth floors of the new building will connect the TSRB with the Cancer Research Building.

“UT does three things very well,” observed President DiPietro. “We educate, we discover and we connect. No place is more important than the Health Science Center in keeping Tennessee healthy. They pose in front of the newly created donor wall in the Hamilton Eye Institute.

With hard hats on, local and state officials join UT faculty and administrators in breaking ground on the $49 million Translational Science Research Building. See TSRB, pg. 3

HEI Unveils Wall of Thanks to Donors

From left to right: Doctors James Fleming, Jerre Freeman, Ken Brown, David Stern, Ralph Hamilton, Steve Schwab, Barrett Haik, and Richard D. Drewry

On June 12, the Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled its new donor wall. Constructed of etched glass and brushed metal, the monument honors those who have helped make the Hamilton Eye Institute into the world-class eye center it is today.

Department of Ophthalmology Vice-Chair James C. Fleming, MD, welcomed donors, university and community leaders, physicians and members of the press to the ceremony. UTHSC Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, praised the institute as a “national-caliber” research, education and patient-care facility.

“It is my distinct pleasure to be here as we unveil this wall that reflects the commitment of so many to build a world-class institution here in Memphis,” he said.

Attendees who have watched HEI turn into the community staple it is today, commended the vision of founder Ralph Hamilton, MD, for the institute’s creation. He then shared his vision for the institute.

See HEI, pg. 3

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.

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Thomason Named Dean of Graduate Health Sciences

On May 22, after a diligent search of internal candidates, Donald B. Thomason, PhD, was chosen to be the next dean for the UTHSC College of Graduate Health Sciences. Dr. Thomason assumes the deanship from Cheryl Scheid, PhD, who served in dual roles as vice chancellor for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs and as dean of Graduate Health Sciences. Dr. Scheid steps down as dean to focus on her role as vice chancellor, which includes major responsibilities for upcoming reaccreditation.

“The students, faculty and staff in the college have been very fortunate to have Dr. Scheid’s leadership for the past four years,” said Dr. Thomason. “I look forward to continuing to build on the college’s reputation for excellence in research, teaching and service as we move into the college’s ninth decade.”

In his new role, Dr. Thomason will be the chief administrative and fiscal officer for the college, providing leadership in working with deans from the other colleges and partner institutions, as well as in implementing innovative and effective recruitment and retention programs for graduate students. Currently, approximately 350 students and 100 postdoctoral fellows are enrolled in the College of Graduate Health Sciences.

Previously, Dr. Thomason was chair of the College of Graduate Health Sciences Curriculum Committee in which he designed and implemented database solutions to improve the efficiency of tracking student progress and managing the college’s extensive curriculum. He had also served as the associate dean for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs in dual roles as vice chancellor for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs and as dean of Graduate Health Sciences.

“Having served in the college for many years, Dr. Thomason brings a wealth of insight and knowledge of its operation,” said Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD. “We know he will employ his accumulated knowledge and strong relationships with our students and research partners to move the College of Graduate Health Sciences to the next level.”

Donald Thomason, PhD
Saint Thomas Health, UTHSC Expand Partnership

On April 23, Saint Thomas Health (STHe), Middle Tennessee’s largest health care system, and UTHSC expanded their partnership in that region. This partnership will lead to more than 100 new medical residents receiving training in a number of specialty areas.

“This initiative will allow Saint Thomas Health and the UT Health Science Center to collaborate in positively impacting the delivery of care throughout the region,” stated Mike Schatzlein, MD, president and CEO of Saint Thomas Health. “Together, we will focus on expanding access to needed services to our patients and preparing the physicians for the future of health care.”

Through the STHe-UTHSC residency training program, faculty and residents will undertake a research initiative in comparing effectiveness of varying modalities of treatment, as well as research in outcomes investigations. A component of this research is termed translational research, whereby clinical practices that have been proven through clinical trials are moved into community practice.

The new program is set to commence in 2013, with training at three STHe hospitals — Baptist Hospital, Saint Thomas Hospital and Middle Tennessee Medical Center. By 2017, when the STHe-UTHSC residency training program is fully developed, Middle Tennessee physicians who are members of the UTHSC clinical faculty will train more than 100 medical residents every year in varied specialties. Initially, 225 new jobs will be created with an additional 125 in subsequent years.

“Serving the people of Tennessee with the highest quality clinical care is one of the cornerstones of the UTHSC mission,” stated Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD. “By significantly expanding the residency training program with Saint Thomas Health, we reaffirm the shared commitment of our organizations – a commitment to train and develop physicians equipped with both superior clinical skills and a caring, compassionate, holistic view of those they serve within our communities.”

Baptist Hospital has been a partner with UTHSC since 1981, and has trained more than 140 medical residents specializing in internal medicine. This excellent program has produced many highly trained physicians who have remained in the Middle Tennessee area.

Saint Thomas Health is a comprehensive network of affiliated joint ventures in diagnostics, cardiac services and ambulatory surgery as well as medical practices, clinics and rehabilitation facilities. The faith-based ministry employs more than 6,500 associates.

As more details become available about the residency program, faculty, staff and students will be kept up to date on residency requirements and additional opportunities from this new endeavor.

Faculty Senate Elects Thad Wilson President

On June 12, the Faculty Senate conducted its annual awards ceremony, where many were recognized for their active service to the campus. One such faculty member received the ultimate accolade for his dedication – Thaddeus Wilson, PhD, associate professor of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering, was named president of the Faculty Senate.

“Thad Wilson has the potential to be a great Faculty Senate president,” stated outgoing President Lawrence M. Brown, PharmD. I have worked closely with Thad Wilson and I have found him to be engaging, insightful, and always doing what he can to support faculty rights. Most importantly, he connects well with people and is always willing to listen to faculty issues.

New senators were also elected to represent their respective colleges. The new president-elect is George Cook, PhD, professor in the College of Pharmacy. Joe Swanson, PharmD, assistant professor of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacy was named secretary.

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.

Meetings of the Faculty Senate will reconvene in September. For those who would like to attend and become more involved on campus, meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month from 4 - 5 p.m. in the General Education Building, room A34.
TSRB, cont. from page 1

generate solutions from this research enterprise...solutions that extend from the laboratory to the patient in the hospital, to a baby in a pediatrician’s office or to a cardiovascular surgeon in the operating room.”

“UT is part of the solution to many of today’s challenges in health care,” stated Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell. “These economic development and education-advancing initiatives bring the best and the brightest to the community and help us retain these professionals. I know this institution will continue to be a force for good in our community.”

Coverage of the event appeared in publications such as The Commercial Appeal, Memphis Business Journal, Interior Design News, as well as on WREG-TV.

TSRB construction will begin immediately. The building is expected to open in fall 2013.

HEI, cont. from page 1

and the difficulties he encountered during the 35 years of trying to establish it, until the leadership of Barrett Haik, MD, and the generosity of many supporters enabled his dream to come to life.

Dr. Haik also praised the donors for making the institute a reality. “It’s because of the faith of the individuals here on this wall that we were able to complete this facility,” he stated. “Further, we wish to express our ineffable gratitude to our donors who make all things possible at the Hamilton Eye Institute through their tremendous generosity.”

Legendary Artist Donates 400+ Works to UTHSC

For the entire month of November, UTHSC will showcase a selection of 40 works by local artist Paul Penczner at the Memphis Botanic Garden. In spring 2011, more than 400 works were donated to the university by the artist’s widow Jolanda Penczner, along with her husband’s fine art studio in Midtown Memphis.

“We want people who appreciate and understand the intrinsic value of art to experience Paul’s work...to have the chance to bring the beauty and power of what he created into their lives,” stated Gabor Tigi, MD, PhD, Harriet Van Vleet Professor and chair of the Department of Physiology.

Recognized as a remarkable painter and extraordinary personality, Paul Penczner is known for evocative portraiture and a dizzying array of artistic styles, working in mediums that include oils, watercolors, pen and ink, and large installations. The Hungarian-born artist came to Memphis in 1951 with his German-born wife Jolanda, quickly earning a reputation as one of the city’s finest painters and most generous instructors. His portraits hang throughout the city of Memphis and in many private collections elsewhere, including commissioned portraits of UTHSC department chairs.

From the 1950s on, Penczner showed his diverse body of work at more than 70 major art exhibitions throughout the United States, including the Smithsonian, the New York National Academy of Design, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Locally it was shown in the Dixon Gallery and Gardens and Memphis Brooks Museum of Art.

In 1989 a series of pen and ink works titled, “Jesus Christ and the Twelve Apostles,” was accepted by Pope John Paul II, and was placed in the Vatican Museum of Art in Rome. Penczner had worked and reworked the drawings for 20 years, engrossed in endless studies of the faces of homeless men in downtown Memphis.

To memorialize the first anniversary of the September 11 terrorism attack, Penczner painted “American Starry Night,” donating it to the then-commander in chief, President George W. Bush. The work remains part of the White House Collection.

Painted between 1995 and 2000, “Falling Stars” depicts the suffering of the people of Hungary and became known as his most famous work, with comparisons being made to Picasso’s “Guernica.” Dr. Tigi is currently working to place “Falling Stars” in the Hungarian National Museum.

On Thursday, November 8, UTHSC will host a reception for 200 guests at the Botanic Garden to celebrate the artist’s legacy. The remainder of the works will be available for review and purchase at subsequent events and online at http://uthsc.edu/penczner/. All proceeds from the sale of the Penczner collection will support an endowment in his name in the UTHSC Department of Physiology. For more information, contact Kathleen Stern, who is administering sale of the works at pencznergift@gmail.com.

Submit Stories to The Record

If you would like to submit stories for the October-November issue of The Record, send stories and photos to Elizabeth Link at elink@uthsc.edu, and we will try to include the items.

View UTHSC News Notes

Catch up on all the latest news and features about UTHSC by visiting http://www.uthsc.edu/news/newsnotes/. News Notes provides a brief summary of media exposure that faculty, staff and students have received, as well as links to more information (when available).
State of the Campus: UTHSC Primed for the Future

On June 12, at the annual Faculty Senate meeting, Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, presented the state of campus, speaking more positively about our finances and budget than in previous years. The main focus was on completion – with staffing and budget in order, UTHSC is moving forward with confidence.

Chancellor Schwab illustrated to the audience the new leadership of the campus. Laura Talbot, PhD, EdD, RN, has been put in place as the new dean in the College of Nursing, In the College of Graduate Health Sciences, Donald Thomason, PhD, has been made dean; a natural fit given his past leadership positions on campus. Both have hit the ground running in their new positions. In addition, Marie Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, new dean in the College of Pharmacy, has officially arrived on campus. Plus, Randy Farmer, EdD, has been appointed vice chancellor of Development and Alumni Affairs.

The new operating budget for UTHSC has increased, with more funds being allocated to new projects. For the first time, the governor has allocated special operating funds to the university. Also, after successful lobbying, demolition dollars have been provided in order to knock down non-functional buildings. Constructing new buildings will also be made easier – UTHSC has now been given planning funds to improve the campus. Thus, every building erected in the next five years will have planning funds to help develop the space.

The next item up for business at the state of the campus had been discussed last year, but that wasn’t a problem for attendees. The topic was employee raises.

“We believe that it is important to make sure that our staff and our faculties reach fair compensation,” stated Chancellor Schwab. “So, we are looking at a 4 percent raise pool in addition to the 5 percent raise pool that we set up last year for all the employees of the UTHSC.”

Clinical and sponsored-programs funding have increased. In the past three years, UTHSC has gone from $140 million to more than $200 million in sponsored-program funds, much of it from research projects.

Although much of the news in regard to the budget was positive, there were still a few items that were not so cheerful. The overall budget for UTHSC is still lower then it was even five years ago, forcing the administration to modestly raise tuition by 4 percent.

Education is one of UTHSC’s core missions, and taking that mission to Nashville will be a central part of UTHSC’s plan over the next few years. The new residency partnership with Saint Thomas Health, a major player in the Middle Tennessee region, will commence in 2013. Currently, the Nashville campus has 800 residents, faculty and trainees. However, with new programs in place, the number is set to grow to 1,350.

Chancellor Schwab briefly reminded the campus of research endeavors that have been solidified, such as the new research council staffed by representatives from the six colleges. SACS accreditation is also currently under way. Lastly, Chancellor Schwab reminded attendees about how much UTHSC has prospered over the last few years – after all, several of our partner hospitals have attained national rankings.

“That is where we are today, I think we have a bright future,” stated Chancellor Schwab concluded.

Campus Food Provider Change Set for August

Following a national Request for Proposal process, Sodexo will take over the campus food service operations starting August 20. Sodexo is one of the major companies providing food services to college campuses nationally.

A committee that included UTHSC faculty, staff and students participated in the food service bid process. Chartwells, the outgoing food service provider, and Sodexo have already met to ensure a smooth transition. Although specific plans for the menu concepts have not been finalized, Einstein Bros. Bagels will stay in place. Most other concepts have not been finalized, Einstein Bros. Bagels will stay in place. Most other concepts like Mondo’s Subs will change.

Sodexo plans to hold focus groups in the coming weeks to assess campus needs and desires for different food services. More details will follow as new dining options are added to UTHSC’s restaurant roster.

If you are interested in participating in food service focus groups, please send an email to Jackie McClarin at jmcclarin@uthsc.edu.

Dr. Randy Farmer Takes Development Lead

Randy L. Farmer, EdD, was named vice chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs at UTHSC. In his new position, Dr. Farmer will report directly to the chancellor and supervise a 19-person team. He was appointed by Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, and Johnnie D. Ray, president, University of Tennessee Foundation.

“Randy will be a dynamic leader for our UTHSC development and alumni efforts and a great fit with both UTHSC and the Memphis community,” said Ray, who also serves as vice president, Alumni Affairs for the University of Tennessee System. “He is a consummate development professional with an extensive background in health science fundraising.”

As chief development officer at UTHSC, Dr. Farmer will provide the leadership and coordination for all private fundraising. He will supply direction and staffing for development and alumni activities in coordination with the deans of all six colleges and in collaboration with the UTHSC senior leadership team. Dr. Farmer will also support development and alumni initiatives in Chattanooga and Knoxville.

Since 2010, Dr. Farmer has led the Development office for the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Previously, he was executive associate vice chancellor for Medical Development and Alumni Relations at Vanderbilt University for three years. From 1988 to 2006, he was with Washington University in St. Louis where he served in roles that increased his levels of responsibility, broadened his development experience, and expanded his management skills.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Southeast Missouri State University, a Master of Arts degree from Ball State University, and a doctorate in higher education from Indiana University.

Filling the position has been in the works for quite some time, with the UTHSC administration focusing on development and research as a large part of the future of the university. Dr. Farmer began his new role in June.
Knights Templar Gives Second Grant to Eye Research

Though on campus just seven months ago making a donation to researchers in the Hamilton Eye Institute, a representative from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation returned to UTHSC on Thursday, June 14, with another check. David White, the 2011 Grand Commander in Tennessee for Knights Templar, presented a $50,000 check to Qiuhua Zhang, PhD, a postdoc research trainee in the Department of Ophthalmology, and her mentor Jena Steinle, PhD, an associate professor in Ophthalmology.

“Thank you for what you’re doing for the kids,” said White, as he made the presentation.

Dr. Zhang’s research is focusing on ways to optimize superselective intraophthalmic artery chemotherapy (SSIOAC), a technique designed to deliver high intraocular concentrations of chemotherapy to treat extensive disease while minimizing system exposure. Though SSIOAC is very effective against retinoblastoma, it has had its own vision-threatening adverse effects.

Dr. Zhang hopes to optimize the SSIOAC treatment so that one day it may be the treatment for retinoblastoma, instead of conventional chemotherapy, which is the current option and also has adverse effects.

“This Knights Templar donation will allow Dr. Zhang to continue her work on a novel treatment for retinoblastoma as well as move toward her long-term career goal to become an independent researcher,” stated Dr. Steinle.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation is a nonprofit that provides funds for research, surgical treatment and hospitalization to those who suffer from diseases or injury to the eyes.

Witherspoon, Jordan Honored as College of Nursing Alums

On May 18, alumni from the College of Nursing honored the recipients of its Outstanding Alumni Award series, which is coordinated through UTHSC’s Office of Alumni and Annual Giving. Betty Witherspoon, EdD (BSN ’71), was this year’s Outstanding Alumna, and Irma L. Jordan, DNP, APRN, FNP/PMHNP-BC (BSN ’97, MSN ’98 and DNP ’10), was named Most Supportive Alumna.

With a strong mantle of education and work ethic impressed upon her early in life, Dr. Witherspoon received her bachelor’s in nursing from the University of Tennessee at Memphis (as UTHSC was previously called), a master’s in nursing from the University of Alabama, and a doctorate in education from California Coastal College.

With her wit for science and math, and passion for caring for others, Dr. Witherspoon knew her calling was nursing. “I was influenced by watching a cousin and a friend’s mother who were both nurses,” she said. “I have always been fascinated by the health care industry, and I knew nursing was a profession that would bring great satisfaction and meaning to my life.”

After nursing stints at military hospitals in Germany and hospitals in Mississippi and New Orleans, Dr. Witherspoon compassionately taught nursing, with specialties in childcare and mental health, for close to three decades at Tennessee State University. Dr. Witherspoon is also a tireless advocate for the Arthritis Foundation of Middle Tennessee, the Nashville Children’s Theatre, and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville.

Dr. Irma Jordan bleeds orange through and through. She received her bachelor’s, master’s, and Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s College of Nursing, where she serves as an assistant professor of primary care and public health.

Born in Millington, Tenn., Dr. Jordan might have graced the silver screen if the nursing profession hadn’t chosen her first. Working as a Red Cross volunteer at a naval base left a lasting impression on her that she took with her to nursing school.

Having practiced as a family nurse practitioner since 1998, Dr. Jordan said, “I see nursing from the viewpoint of where we are going. I, along with other amazing colleagues, have the role of educating students to not only deliver high-quality health care, but to also serve as leaders directing the health of our citizens.”

Practicing what she preaches, Dr. Jordan is developing an integrated model of health care delivery in the primary care setting for those with mental health disorders. With teaching roles in the family nurse practitioner and psychiatric/mental health options, Dr. Jordan also teaches mental health nursing in the Clinical Nurse Leader Program. Her invaluable work earned her an educational grant to examine the enhancement of mental health/substance use education and practice in an advanced education Doctor of Nursing Practice Program.

Register Now - Heart, Lung, Vascular Update

September 7-8, 2012 • UT Conference Center, Knoxville, Tennessee

Using case-based examples, the Heart, Lung, Vascular Update provides direct contact with individuals focusing on cardiovascular disease issues. Experts offer guidance for primary care providers and others on treatment options for patients in the areas of carotid revascularization, pulmonary hypertension and severe aortic stenosis. It is approved for AMA, AAPA and ACPE credits.

Faculty experts from the UT Graduate School of Medicine will lead discussions, and joining the presenters will be J. Rod Gimbel, MD, Cardiology Associates of East Tennessee; Scott Kaatz, DO, Wayne State University School of Medicine/Henry Ford Hospital; and Domenic A. Sica, MD, Medical College of Virginia.

The update is presented by the University of Tennessee Medical Center Heart, Lung, Vascular Institute and UT Graduate School of Medicine and is directed by Shyatt Breese, MD, James Cox, MD, and Dale Wortham, MD.

To register and for details, visit www.tennessee.edu/cme/HLV2012.
**New Director of Sports Medicine Fellowship Named**

Gregory Blake, MD, MPH, chair of Family Medicine, announced that Irfan Asif, MD, has been appointed as the fellowship director of Sports Medicine. Dr. Asif is replacing Kenneth Bielak, MD, who has been integral in the fellowship program since its inception in 1996, serving as director for the past 15 years.

"It is an honor for me to take on the role of director for the Sports Medicine Fellowship," Dr. Asif said. "My goals are to continue and strengthen the collaboration with the university and the community through the teaching, research and clinical perspectives and raise our program to a position of national recognition. I will be working on expanding our curriculum beyond musculoskeletal complaints to encompass medical problems of athletes and active persons such as cardiac and pulmonary issues, concussions and sports nutrition. We will also be adding new procedures to the program and practice with advanced ultrasound and Platelet-Rich plasma."

Dr. Asif began his new role on March 1. His interests include primary care sports medicine including both musculoskeletal complaints, as well as non-musculoskeletal conditions such as concussions. His research includes the prevention of sudden cardiac death in young athletes, which has been presented nationally and earned honors such as the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) Best Overall Research Award, The AMSSM Harry Galanty Most Outstanding Young Investigator Award (two-time receipt), the AMSSM Resident Scholarship Award and The Society for Teachers of Family Medicine 2012 Best Overall Research Presentation.

Dr. Asif is a graduate of University of Washington Family Medicine Program and completed his fellowship in Primary Care Sports Medicine also at the University of Washington. He holds the rank of assistant professor and is board certified in Family Medicine with a certificate of added qualifications in Sports Medicine.

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**UT College of Medicine - Chattanooga**

**Awards Recognize the Best in Student Research**

In April, the UT Chattanooga College of Medicine and Erlanger Health System recognized the winning studies from the spring Research Week. Eleven projects and nine case reports covered a myriad of topics such as child abuse, respiratory failure, and emergency medicine feasibility.

Awards were presented by the UTCOMC Dean, David C. Seaberg, MD, The winner of the Best Overall Research Presentation and the Robert C. Coddington, MD, Award for Research Excellence was Erik Martin, MD, from the Department of Emergency Medicine for his presentation, "Improving Risk Stratification in Chest Pain Patients: The Erlanger HEARTS Score.” G. Ralston Major II, MD, Department of Surgery, won first place in the case study competition for his study titled, "Use of CT Perfusion Imaging and CT Angiography in the Selection of Hyperacute Stroke Patients to Undergo Emergent Carotid Endarterectomy."

Judges for the event were Paul Stumpf, MD, professor, chair and residency program director for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Beth Chooby, MD, associate professor for the St. Francis Family Medicine Program in Memphis, and Matthew Good, MD, clinical assistant professor for the Department of Pediatrics.

The awards dinner was held at the Walden Club. The annual 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.

Congratulations to all the winners.

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**UT Health Science Center - Knoxville**

**Surgeons Teach Blunt Trauma in Iraq**

Trauma and Critical Care Surgeons Blaine Enderson, MD, and Lou Smith, MD, participated in a 10-day medical mission to Kurdistan, an autonomous region of Iraq, where they participated in surgeries such as appendectomies and laparoscopic cholecystectomy, as well as presented on trauma system development to local health care professionals.

Dr. Enderson said one of the greatest health care needs in Kurdistan is to set up trauma systems. Ambulance services were recently initiated, but Dr. Enderson said there is not a system in place for treating injured patients.

“They don’t take the same safety measures as we take here,” Dr. Enderson said. “For example, seatbelt use is non-existent. Use of cars in many countries is where we were 40 or 50 years ago, except cars are more powerful than 40 and 50 years ago. You might see 10 kids hanging out the window or sitting in laps. Pedestrians are often hit. Blunt trauma is a big issue.”

Dr. Enderson said the economy in Kurdistan is thriving and that the region has access to state-of-the-art medical equipment. However, due to lack of availability of medical training, physicians do not know how to use the equipment.

The mission was led by Kurdistan native Gazi Zibari, MD, professor of Surgery and Malcolm Feist Endowed Chair in Transplantation at Louisiana State University, Shreveport, who has led missions to Kurdistan since 1991. Dr. Enderson and Dr. Smith are making plans to return next year.
Dentistry Students Provide Services at State Clinic for Uninsured

Students from the College of Dentistry have been designated by the state to provide services at the West Tennessee Regional Office Dental Clinic in Jackson, Tenn. The state-of-the-art facility was established in March 2011 by the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) and provides comprehensive dental care for uninsured adults and children.

Under the supervision of Nada Kordab, DDS, fourth-year dental students are completing their first semester of service by providing care in one-week rotations at the clinic as part of their curriculum. In addition to fulfilling their academic and clinical requirements, students are also gaining valuable exposure to unique oral health care needs.

“The students see a patient population who have much different oral disease signs and symptoms than they would normally see here at our college dental clinic,” said Timothy Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA, dean for the UT College of Dentistry.

John Goodman, UT dental student from Cleveland, Tenn., has seen conditions such as advanced tooth decay firsthand while on rotation. “The Jackson clinic is on a sliding fee scale based on income,” said Goodman. “Because of this, the expense for treatment of extreme oral conditions is not a factor, therefore, we cared for patients with advanced needs.”

The unique partnership between the TDH and the UT College of Dentistry began before the clinic was constructed. Requested by the state to assist on the project, Dean Hottel and Morris Robbins, DDS, retired faculty member and special advisor to the dean, assisted with details from space and equipment recommendations to staffing and logistics, including student housing – which is provided by the Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. Since its inception, the clinic has treated 708 patients from 20 counties, performing more than 2,700 procedures.

High School Students Earn White Coats

On June 2, more than 25 Memphis-area students received their white coats at the second annual Determined to be a Doctor Someday Program. Created by UTHSC alumna, Christina Rosenthal, DDS, the program encourages minority and underrepresented students’ interests in pursuing careers in professional health care.

Through a series of Saturday-morning sessions, the program exposes qualified participants to the different health care doctorate degrees available. One dedicated student travelled from Atlanta to be a part of the program.

UTHSC donated the space for the weekly sessions, provided meals, and purchased the white coats for this first-ever presentation. Donning a white coat is a traditional symbol for entry into professional health care practice.

The special keynote speaker for the day was newly doctored Memphis City Councilman Edmund Ford, Jr., EdD. Dr. Ford spoke to the audience about the trials he faced when he first attended college – and about how one professor refused to let him slack off.

Memphis Mayor A C Wharton, Jr., made a surprise visit to the ceremony in order to show his support for the program.

For more information about “Determined to be a Doctor Someday,” go to www.determinedtobeadoctor.org.

DRASH Comes to UTHSC

On May 10, students from the Colleges of Dentistry and Medicine discovered one option for paying off student loans and getting experience in the field – the army.

In order to increase medical awareness and draw attention to the benefits of pursuing a military career DRASH – which stands for Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter – was constructed in the dining hall of the Student-Alumni Center by the U.S. Army. Students toured the equipped unit with surgical tools ready to go so they could see firsthand the advanced field operation units set up by the army in areas without traditional hospitals.

After touring the units, students were able to speak with recruiters about the many benefits of joining the army’s medical brigade such as shorter deployment times, tuition repayment, and the cutting-edge environment of emergency medicine. Those who sign-up while still in school also receive a stipend to cover books and supplies. Many techniques or medicines, which are tested in the military field, often later translate to medical practices across the country.

“I chose to join the army because first and foremost, it gave me an opportunity to serve my country,” stated John Goodman, third-year dental student. “It was also a great way to help pay for my tuition in dental school. The equipment is top notch, so you know you will have the opportunity to learn a lot. It was one of the best decisions I made after joining dental school.”
Dental Hygiene Alumna Thanks Professor with Endowment

In May, Masters of Dental Hygiene alumna Ruth Glisson and her husband, Gary, decided to honor former teacher Nancy Williams, EdD, by establishing a $25,000 endowment in her name. The Dr. Nancy J. Williams Endowment Fund, will provide scholarships for Master of Dental Hygiene students, with the first award expected to be given in July 2013.

Glisson recalled stories from when she was first enrolling in the online program and the patience and kindness that Dr. Williams showed her throughout.

“Nancy inspired me and so many others,” stated Glisson. “I see that love she has for everybody, whether they are hard to get along with or not.”

Dr. Williams reciprocated the respect stating that “Ruth has been an inspiration to me as much as I’ve been to her.”

The master’s program was the first established online program in the country to train dental hygienists to become educators and leaders. Since its inception in 2006, it has graduated 46 dental hygienists, the majority of whom are now teaching in the field.

From left to right: Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, Cassandra Holder-Ballard, RDH, MPA, EdD, Noma Anderson, PhD, Ruth Glisson, MDH, Nancy Williams, EdD, and her husband Dennis celebrate the success of the Masters of Dental Hygiene Program and look to the future with the new endowment.

Core Teaching Hospitals

Rank Among Best in Nation

U.S. News & World Report rankings have spotlighted Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital, Methodist University Hospital, and Erlanger Health System, three core teaching hospitals for UTHSC, citing them for being among the best in the nation.

“This is not only a tribute to these hospitals but also to our faculty, residents and fellows who together make up the lion’s share of physicians in these facilities,” said Steve J. Schwab, MD, UTHSC chancellor.

For the second consecutive year, Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital was named one of the best children’s hospitals in the country. The 2012-2013 U.S. News list recognized Le Bonheur for its outstanding work in five areas (up from four last year) of specialty: neurology/neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology, nephrology, and cardiology/heart surgery. To read more about the Le Bonheur rankings, visit: http://www.lebonheur.org/articles/once-again-le-bonheur-named-among-nation-s-best.

Another UTHSC core teaching hospital, Methodist University Hospital (MUH), has also been ranked among the nation’s best by U.S. News & World Report. In July 2011, MUH was recognized for its national standing in orthopedics and received special mention in transplantation (an area that is not ranked).

Additionally, for 2011-2012, Erlanger Health System was named the best Regional Hospital in the Chattanooga area by U.S. News & World Report. Erlanger is a main teaching hospital site for UTHSC where the university provides excellence in medical student and postgraduate physician training. To read more about their rankings, visit: http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/erlanger-medical-center-6520065.

“Our faculty and staff’s individual and collective commitment to compassionate, quality patient care and excellence in everything they do are central drivers of their high rankings. We applaud them and our health care partners as we forge ahead together to even greater accomplishments for the benefit of our statewide community,” Chancellor Schwab said.

TMA Recognizes UTHSC Physicians for Excellence

Two UTHSC professors received awards at the 2012 Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) Annual Meeting in Nashville.

Eugene Spiotta, Sr., MD, received the Outstanding Physician Award, for his work over the past 60 years as a physician. A graduate of UTHSC, Dr. Spiotta has served as clinical professor in the College of Medicine from 1954 to 1968, but still teaches and significantly contributes to grand rounds. In 1975, he established the UTHSC Family Practice Residency Program at St. Joseph Hospital, which later transferred to St. Francis Catholic Hospital – East. He is a member of the American College of Chest Physicians, American College of Cardiology and the American Society of Internal Medicine.

James Bailey, MD, MPH, FACP, professor in the College of Medicine, received the TMA Distinguished Service Award for his work as an advocate for patients, with a focus on education to improve health. For 10 years, Dr. Bailey has served on the board of Healthy Memphis Common Table (HMCT), which works to improve health and thwart the obesity epidemic. He has also led efforts to recruit community partners. He led efforts to hire HMCT’s first executive director. Dr. Bailey has received numerous awards during his career, most recently “Best Doctor” peer awards, Golden Apple teaching excellence awards for preventive medicine, and election in 2011 to the American Osler Society.

The TMA is the largest professional organization for doctors dedicated to protecting the health interests of patients in the state. Congratulations to both recipients for their well-deserved acknowledgement in the field of health care.
Organ Procurement – Where Does UTHSC Stand?

There has been much talk and publicity over the last few months regarding the issue of organ procurement in the Mid-South. Our transplant program – the UT-Methodist Transplant Institute in Memphis – performed 260 liver, kidney and pancreas transplants last year and was the fourth-largest liver transplant program in the United States. Now, our network of organ donations is being threatened by a new structure that would allow UT-Methodist Transplant Institute access to only 25 percent of organs in the state.

Below are letters to the editor that Chancellor Steve Schwab, MD, transplant surgeon James Eason, MD, and Gary Shorb, president and CEO, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare sent to The Commercial Appeal. UTHSC hopes that all faculty and staff will get on board with our efforts by writing letters of support for a waiver application for Tennessee Donor Services to be the designated Organ Procurement Organization for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare to stop this restriction of vital organs. Submit letters through: http://www.methodisthealth.org/articles/help-the-transplant-institute-continue-saving-lives.

Letter to the Editor

Something is rotten in the state of organ transplantation in Memphis. Our city is in danger of losing access to many of the organs that are donated in Tennessee for transplant; as a result, lives could be lost. As a native West Tennessean, I am deeply concerned about this threat to our lives and the lives of our children.

James Eason, MD

The United Network for Organ Sharing, a contractor that runs the federal organ transplantation and transplant network, has dissolved Tennessee’s sharing agreement and limited Memphis to a donor service area that covers parts of West Tennessee, North Mississippi and East Arkansas. As a result, beginning at the end of this year patients in the Memphis area and other parts of West Tennessee who are awaiting an organ transplant will have access to only 25 percent of the organs donated in Tennessee; patients in the rest of the state will have access to 75 percent of those organs.

This change threatens the lives of Memphians and West Tennesseans and the very existence of the transplant program that serves them. The University of Tennessee-Methodist Transplant Institute performed 260 liver, kidney and pancreas transplants last year and is the fourth-largest liver transplant program in the United States. Memphians would be parading in the streets if any of our sports teams were in the Final Four. We must show the same energy and commitment to maintaining this lifesaving resource for our community.

A similar issue in 2006 and 2007 affecting the heart and lung transplant programs in Memphis has subsequently resulted in the lung transplant program being inactivated and the heart transplant program performing only 10 transplants last year. The waiting time for a heart transplant in Memphis is now four times as long as that for patients in Nashville, and patient survival is lower in Memphis.

Gary Shorb,
President/CEO of MLH

We would like to set the record straight related to inaccuracies made by Mid-South Transplant Foundation in your May 11 article “Disputes erupt over transplant changes.” Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center have always had the best interest of all community members in mind.

Mid-South Transplant Foundation asserts that Memphis transplant patients will not be disadvantaged by the loss of organ access in late 2012 when the Methodist/UT Transplant Institute loses access to organs provided by Tennessee Donor Services. The reality is that there will be many fewer organs available for transplant in West Tennessee; hence, fewer West Tennessee residents will get a transplant. We performed 260 transplants last year and only 46 of our organs came from Mid-South Transplant Foundation. The difference is the number of patients who will die.

The foundation also claims there will be enough livers available to support people in our community. We are on track to perform 150 liver transplants this year. Because of their limited service area, Mid-South Transplant Foundation is simply not able to meet the needs of our community’s patients.

Another assertion is that the current system somehow provides an unfair advantage to UT-Methodist. They should be ashamed of that statement. Nothing is fairer than equal access to transplant organs for all Tennesseans. That is what we stand to lose at the end of this year. Residents of West Tennessee will have less access to organs than citizens in the rest of the state.

For Mid-South Transplant Foundation to say that people outside the Mid-South “come here to cut in line” is absurd. The United Network for Organ Sharing encourages patients to get onto more than one list and ensures that the sickest patients get organs first. Nearly 90 percent of our transplant recipients live in West Tennessee, Arkansas or Mississippi.

We have nothing against Mid-South Transplant Foundation. The fact is that it is the fifth-smallest organ procurement organization in the country, meaning the number of organs it procures is insufficient to serve our community. Most states have statewide OPDs and that’s all we want. We simply want our patients to have fair access to organs so they can have the best chance of living.

* All Letters to the Editor reprinted from The Commercial Appeal with permission.
In May, Harvey Matheny, DDS, MSD, assistant professor, Department of Endodontics at UTHSC, received an unusual call about a patient. Kasey, an 11-year-old male, weight 190 lbs, was experiencing swelling under his chin due to a dental infection. Routine as it may seem, there was one little thing that could make the procedure difficult – Kasey is a Malaysian Sun Bear living at the Little Rock Zoo.

Marilynn Baeyens, DVM, long-time veterinarian, knew that Dr. Matheny would be able to help because he had previously worked on bears and other animals at the zoo. He brought senior dental students, Heather Johnson, Emily Kimes, and Kristy Stanislav, as well as James Shambarger, DDS, MS, an endodontist from Texarkana, Texas, to help with the procedure.

Kasey was brought to the zoo hospital to be intubated and maintained on general anesthesia. As a perennial joke, new initiates to the zoo hospital are always assured they only have to outrun one person should the animal wake up during surgery. After clinical exams and consultations, Drs. Matheny and Shambarger decided the best approach would be surgery in order to fully clean the canal and seal it from the root tip to the crown. Students participated in the procedure by curetting the infected tissue and removing materials from the crown area. Once the treatment was finished and the incision closed, Kasey was transported back to his enclosure for some much needed R & R. He is currently doing well and has returned to his normal activities.

For the dental students, this was an unusual chance to use their knowledge and skills in a new and exciting way. Student-doctor Stanislav said, “It was the coolest thing, by far, I have ever done in dental school. It was amazing how similar the bear’s craniofacial anatomy is to that of a human.”

“It was really an honor to be able to treat an animal as grand as that with the standards of human care,” stated student-doctor Johnson.

Kasey is well and back to his climbing, playful self after his day with the dentist. Malaysian Sun Bears are indigenous to Southeast Asia. The name comes from the pale orange-yellow marking in the shape of a “V” on its chest. But don’t be scared, their diet consists of mostly invertebrates and fruits.
Dental Hygiene Celebrates 100% Pass Rate

Thirty students in the Department of Dental Hygiene achieved a perfect 100 percent pass rate on the national Dental Hygiene Exam. This is the third time the department has scored perfectly in the past five years – the others in 2009 and 2010.

Many of the graduating students are seeking employment in Tennessee and several are looking to pursue their education further by obtaining advanced degrees in dentistry, epidemiology and public health. Since its establishment in 1924, the UTHSC Dental Hygiene Bachelor’s Degree Program remains the only entry-level bachelor’s program in the state.

Graduate Research Day Highlights

Innovative Student Research

On April 27, the College of Graduate Health Sciences hosted the annual Graduate Research Day. Twenty-six students from five graduate programs presented posters across a wide range of intriguing research topics, including:

- Pharmacotherapy for anxiety disorders
- Identification of influenza endonuclease inhibitors
- Relationship between health literacy and health outcomes
- Characterization of renal cancer stem cells

Monetary prizes were awarded for outstanding posters/presentations, chosen by judges from the College of Graduate Health Sciences. In the first- and second-year student group, Mustafa Hussein, from the Health Outcomes and Policy Research Program, won for his poster titled, “Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Medication Therapy Management in Type 2 Diabetes in Outpatient Settings.” From the Epidemiology Program, Fouzia Naeem won for her work on “Etiology of Intrathoracic Masses in Children in a Histoplasma-Endemic Region.”

The Integrated Biomedical Sciences Program had four winners. In the third-year student group, there was a three-way tie. Kavisha Arora won for her project titled, “Macromolecular Complex of CFTR and Inducible NOS Alters Fluid Transport in Inflammatory Bowel Disease.” Hannah Henson won for her research, “Zebrafish as a Model for Blood-CSF Barrier Development.” Rajashree Rana won for her work on “Structural Insights into the Cysteine-Rich Domain of the Smoothened Protein by Solution NMR.” Her mentor was Jie Zheng, PhD. In the fourth-year and higher student group, Danielle Peacock won for her project on “Identification of Novel HIF-1-Dependent Target Genes in a Murine Model of Breast Cancer” and was mentored by Tiffany Seagroves, PhD.

Graduate Research Day attendees were also treated to lunch and a screening of The PHD Movie, an adaptation of the online comic strip by Jorge Cham. Thanks to all of the mentors who helped on the projects, the Graduate Student Executive Committee and all others who contributed to the day’s events.

Academy of Student Pharmacists Grants Legacy Scholarship

In 2006, the Academy of Student Pharmacists established a scholarship fund in memory of Melinda Rhea Garrett, a first-year pharmacy student who passed away. Each year since, student pharmacists have raised money for the fund and, in 2011, they awarded the first scholarship to Brian Winbigler.

“I never had the pleasure of meeting Melinda Garrett,” Winbigler said. “I first learned about her when I took part in a bowling tour to raise money for the scholarship.” Winbigler, who has already earned more academic honors and awards than he can count on both hands, adds: “I hope that I am honoring her memory.”

Garrett would have graduated with her class in May, but she died during her first year in the College of Pharmacy at the age of 23. Garrett was a member of Kappa Psi, a professional pharmacy fraternity, and the Academy of Student Pharmacists Executive Committee.

“Melinda could light up a room with her smile,” recalls Stephanie Phelps, PharmD, associate dean, academic affairs. “She was a natural leader and had a passion to make things in our college and in the profession better. Brian is so like Melinda. His smile, humor and outgoing personality instantly win others over, and his leadership style makes them want to be involved. He embodies the change he wants to see in the world and truly believes that one person can make all the difference.”

Receiving the scholarship means that Winbigler and his wife, a fourth-year medical student, will graduate with a smaller loan balance to repay. And for a couple with a toddler (Max Willis) in tow, that is a huge benefit. It also means that Winbigler can dive into his pharmacy classes and take an active part in the college’s many opportunities for leadership and service.

A short list of Winbigler’s achievements takes in nearly every student organization and activity in the College of Pharmacy: He is currently PS2A executive vice president; a member of the college’s honors, awards, and scholarship committee; Phi Lambda Sigma vice president; and Class of 2014 social chair and president.

Thanks to scholarship support Winbigler has time to give back to the community at large. For example, he recently worked as a volunteer in the St. Jude Memphis Marathon. “I handed out water bottles to runners along the route,” he says. “It’s amazing how people come out to support the hospital.”

To contribute to the Melinda Rhea Garrett scholarship fund, contact Nell Blair, development director at (901) 448-8202 or by e-mail at NellBlair@UTHSC.edu.
Student Spotlight

Cayce Nawaf was a remarkable student, said Susan Brewer, MD, FACP, assistant dean of Clinical Education in the College of Medicine. "He has been the president of his class since his second year and represents them with a great deal of energy and focus, even when the class positions aren’t necessarily popular with the administration." His work as a leader has been recognized; he was the recipient of the Phil C. Webb award for campus leadership and service to recreational sports, and was inductee into both the Gold Humanism Society and the IMHO TEP society.

As an avid runner with the Memphis Track Club, the largest running group in Memphis and third-largest in the country, Nawaf wanted to use his passion to connect UTHSC to the community. In May 2012, he coordinated the first Medicine in May 5K. The event signed up 380 runners in advance, the largest first year race sign up in Memphis Track Club history. The Medicine in May 5K is set to become an annual event, occurring the third Saturday in May.

"Cayce is the type of student that demonstrates heart," said Frank Harrison, director of Campus Recreation. "Not only did he found and co-chair the Memorial in May 5K, he was also on the purchasing review committee for food service on campus. He works tirelessly to continually better the community for everyone. We are truly the lucky ones for having him represent the UTHSC family."

"Running can enrich anyone’s life and sense of personal accomplishment," said Nawaf. "Pushing yourself can translate into any part of life. No matter how tired or sick of studying I am, I think it’s not as bad as mile 21 in a marathon. That helps me."

When he is not busy with school and rotations at The Regional Medical Center (MED) in Memphis, Nawaf trains for his first full Ironman triathlon, which he is set to undertake in March 2013. The event will test his strength through a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike trek and a 26.2-mile marathon run.

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Annual Ceremony Marks Transition from Classroom to Hospital

On April 27, more than 150 future physicians gathered for the annual Student Clinician’s Ceremony at the Student-Alumni Center. The event was sponsored by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

The Student Clinician’s Ceremony recognizes the transition between the second and third years of medical school; in a medical student’s third year, he or she begins officially seeing patients. The ceremony also recognizes those third-year students who have exemplified humanism and empathy with patients over the past year.

Third-year students Jayna Kelly, Matt Pagni, and Leah Warren shared personal stories about their own first experiences with patients and gave advice to the newbies. They advocated focusing on the simple things that patients need, especially when it’s difficult to know the correct medical advice.

Keynote speakers for the event included UTHSC alums Larry Kilgore, MD (Class of 1980), professor of gynecologic oncology at UTMC Cancer Institute in Knoxville, and Blake Bergeron, MD (Class of 2007), physician at Pediatric Consultants in Memphis.

Dr. Kilgore recommended students always dress like a doctor, introduce themselves, and keep good eye contact with the patient. He told students that hospitality and conscientiousness are important in the medical field, especially during the difficult moments.

Dr. Bergeron added that the students should be a “sponge” of patient stories and information. This is the best way to relate what has been read in class to a real-world setting.

The ceremony commenced with the new M-3 students reciting the student doctor medicine pledge in order to ready themselves for the next phase of their medical education.
**Nuclear Pharmacy**

Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief operating officer, has been named a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives (FACHE). The FACHE title is considered to be the premier credential in the field of health care management. Dr. Brown is the principal aide to the chancellor and handles a wide range of matters of institutional importance, such as operations of the Office of the Chancellor, including management of staff, budgets, administration, policies and procedures. The chief operations officer provides coordination and oversight in the planning and implementation of core initiatives for the Office of the Chancellor and serves as the chancellor’s primary strategic liaison with the Health Science Center and community constituencies. Dr. Brown began his career with the university 12 years ago in the Office of the General Counsel. From there, he became the director of Affirmative Action. He has also served as the director of Employee Relations and the executive director for the Center for Health Disparities.

**Research Society Conference**

Research Society Conference, held in New Orleans, La. Her award-winning dissertation titled, “Dopaminergic Genetic Contributions to Obesity in Kidney Transplant Recipients,” deals with genotyping repository blood samples from kidney transplant recipients who gained or did not gain weight after one year post-transplant. Salimetrics, a company that specializes in analyzing saliva research, sponsored the award. Each award winner receives two days of laboratory-based saliva research training at a Salimetrics Spit Camp along with $500 for travel expenses. Being sent to Spit Camp will assist Stanfill in future research presented because she will learn to use saliva for the extraction of necessary DNA. This would make recruitment of subjects for future studies easier, as the collection of the DNA would not involve a needle stick, and also possibly enhance the translational aspects of her research.

Guy R. Voeller, MD, FACS, professor of Surgery in the College of Medicine, was awarded the Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction. Dr. Voeller is an internationally known surgeon, educator, writer and speaker. He is the founder of and in practice at Mid-South Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery in Memphis focusing on laparoscopic general surgery at the UT Medical Group. He has been named to several “Best Doctors” and “Best Surgeons” lists over the years. Dr. Voeller graduated Alpha Omega Alpha from Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, completing his residency at UTHSC where he was named chief resident. The award was presented in June at the annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Conference in Washington, D.C.

Nadeem Zafar, MD, MBBS, Mphil, associate professor and residency program director, Department of Pathology, has been appointed to the Mid-South Food Bank board of directors. UTHSC has been involved with the Mid-South Food Bank for many years. The organization supplies food for 32 counties, resulting in 15.2 million pounds of food. Dr. Zafar is a committee member of the American Society of Cytopathology and a member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Dr. Zafar is also vice chairman of the Greater Memphis Asian American and Pacific Islander Initiative, as well as a member of the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America.

**PEOPLE**

Ken Brown, PhD

Researcher at the 2012 Southern Nursing

Ansley Stanfill, RN, BSN

College of Nursing faculty member

Vivian Loveless, PharmD

Graduate student in Cytopathology and a member of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

Peg Thorman Hartig, PhD

Associate Professor in the Department of Primary Care and Public Health.

Guy Voeller, MD

Professor of Surgery in the College of Medicine.

Nadeem Zafar, MD

Professor of Pathology in the College of Medicine.

**Cancer Experts to Lead Discussion of Four Cancers**

**John W. Whittington, MD**

**Endowed Lecture**

**September 13 - 15 • Parkwest Medical Center, Knoxville**

Some of the top cancer experts in the U.S. will lead discussion in Knoxville during the John W. Whittington, MD, Endowed Lecture. The lecture will examine research and treatment of breast, colorectal, melanoma and gynecologic cancers and is approved for 10.5 AMA, ACPE and AAPA credits.

In addition to lectures by many experts in the field, an evening reception and CME-certified keynote presentation by Charles M. Bach, M.D., F.A.C.S., University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, will take place on September 13 with full conference sessions September 14-15 at Hilton Knoxville.

After the adjournment of the conference, registered conference participants and guests are invited to attend a tailgate hosted by UT Medical Center prior to the UT Volunteers vs. Florida Gators football game on Saturday, September 15.

Registration and information are available at www.tennessee.edu/cme/Whittington2012.
In honor of National Police Week, the UTHSC Police Department held a drawing for all UTHSC parking subscribers. The drawing was held on May 23, and the winner was Helen Ryan, program coordinator for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She received free parking from July 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012. We want to thank all UTHSC parking subscribers for celebrating National Police Week with us.

Police Awards

This year, the UTHSC Police Department participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness, NAMI Memphis - Crisis Intervention Team Award ceremony. The surrounding Memphis area police departments nominated a police officer who performed their duties as a model CIT officer. The UTHSC Police Department nominated Officer William Gray. Officer Gray responded to a call in Forrest Park regarding a mental-health patient chasing a UTHSC employee through the park with a stick threatening the employee bodily harm. Officer Gray arrived on the scene, defused the situation and calmed the agitated patient. He further assisted the individual by following up to make sure she received the medical attention needed.

Security Awards

On May 1, 2012, Officer Tyrone Knolls was recognized for his service to the pharmacy students Class of 2015 during the White Coat Ceremony. Officer Knolls was given a framed white coat with the inscription “Presented to Mr. Tyrone Knolls in appreciation of your support and words of motivation, Class of 2015.” Officer Knolls is currently stationed in the College of Pharmacy building.

360° Stay Safe At College Video Series

The “360° Stay Safe at College” video is an important step toward helping everyone in the UTHSC campus community take responsibility for his or her own personal safety and security. This program addresses current campus threats which can occur from campus shootings, social networking online communities, identity theft, stalking and more. It uses language appropriate for today’s campus audiences.

Interested in just one topic? Only have 10 minutes? The program is broken into chapters based on topic, running three-to-ten minutes per segment. To watch, go to http://www.uthsc.edu/campuspolice/staysafe/.

National Night Out

In recognition of the 2012 Annual National Night Out, UTHSC will be celebrating our police-community partnerships on Tuesday, August 7, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the 920 Madison Plaza Lobby.

To ensure that our faculty, staff and students have an opportunity to participate, there will be popcorn, sodas and several free items for our UTHSC campus community to enjoy. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs, as well as to strengthen police-community partnerships.

Show your commitment to UTHSC campus community safety by joining us! There are a limited number of goodies, so be sure to show up early!

iPads – Wave of the Future in Medical Technology?

According to Werner H. Shintaku, DDS, MS, associate professor and director of Imaging Sciences in the College of Dentistry, there are no statistically significant differences between images viewed on an high-end, consumer-grade LCD monitor (Dell 2410 Ultrasharp) and an iPad2. These findings were recently published in the medical publication Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology, and Endodontology.

With this study, Dr. Shintaku and his team were able to verify that the iPad2, a relatively new technology in dentistry, is able to display images with quality comparable to a high-end LCD monitor, which represents the traditional way to interpret digital radiographs and has a significantly larger picture size. However, even with excellent image quality and versatility, Dr. Shintaku recommends limiting iPad2 use to secondary viewing situations, for example in an operating room, to review images as necessary.

This is the first published study that evaluates the application of tablet technology in the field of dentistry. It evaluated the image provided by the tablet and assessed its application in diagnoses of dental caries, also known as cavities.

J.S. Allen Donates $902,873 to Research Areas

In June, the late J.S. Allen, a third-generation store owner of Sattilto, Tenn., donated $902,873 to further UTHSC’s efforts in the areas of cancer, multiple sclerosis, and cardiovascular research.

The owner and operator of Allen’s Grocery for all of his working life, he also spent more than 60 years in public service, including serving as mayor of Sattilto for 30 years. Additionally, Allen served on the board of the Hardin County Hospital, now the Hardin County Medical Center in Savannah, Tenn. He passed away February 17, 2011, at the age of 84. Bobbie D. Allen, his wife, passed away in 1999.

Because the causes of multiple sclerosis, cardiovascular disease, and cancer were important to Allen, he bequeathed this gift to UTHSC to help find a cure, especially since the son of the executor of his estate, Jimmy B. Hopper, MD, is an alumnus of the UTHSC College of Medicine (’90).

An endowment fund of $300,957.59 will be created for the J.S. and Bobbie Allen Fellowship in Cardiovascular Research. This fellowship will allow talented young physicians in training to undertake serious biomedical research. Monies of this endowment will fund the training of promising medical students, residents, or fellows for one year in medical research.

Another $300,957.59 will be used to establish the J.S. and Bobbie Allen Gene Expression Analysis Laboratory and support the acquisition of research equipment for cancer research at UTHSC. The nCounter from Nanostring Technology will be purchased for a cost of approximately $225,000. The remainder of Allen’s donation in this area (approximately $75,000) will be used to support cancer research projects that will employ this technology in the studies of human glioma, melanoma, and more.

“The gift will enable us to purchase the nCounter from Nanostring Technology that allows direct measurement of individual RNA molecules and provides a digital signal,” said Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, Muirhead Professor of Pathology and director of the Center for Cancer Research at UTHSC. “This technology will now be available to all researchers at UTHSC to identify gene signatures in cancer as well as in other human diseases.”

With the remaining $902,873, the J.S. and Bobbie Allen Fund for Multiple Sclerosis Research will be established at UTHSC’s Neuroscience Institute to support research on the disease, from which the late Mrs. Allen suffered.

Allen’s contribution to these three areas of research will continue to give back for many years to come and will result in the improvement of the quality of life of Tennessee residents and others through research and medical practice.
In May, UTHSC students and faculty provided dental and medical screenings at the Convoy of Hope. Volunteers also provided haircuts, portraits, clothing, lunch and more to attendees. The event lasted only 90 minutes due to extreme heat. Special thanks to all those willing to bear it to make an impact on the “working poor” in the community.

**A New Tree Blooms**

On May 3, in honor of the first graduating class of the MSN-CNL program, faculty and students in the College of Nursing planted a magnolia tree outside of the Student-Alumni Center, as a gift to future generations of health care students.

**Campus Police Bring Anti-crime Awareness to UTHSC**

UTHSC dental faculty and students assisted the Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Future Van with screenings at the annual Sisterhood Showcase, held at Cook Convention Center. More than 300 children received dental screenings and many more were reached by the educational message on oral health.

**Vroom, Vroom! Biker Ride for Cancer Awareness**

On May 19, more than 100 motorcyclists gathered at The West Clinic, a UTHSC partner in cancer care and prevention, for the First Annual Mid-South Motorcycle Ride for Prostate Cancer. The event was in partnership with the Tennessee Men’s Health Network.

Riders were comprised from three major local bike clubs: River City Bikers, Buffalo Soldiers, and Trinity Bikers.

The purpose of the event was to raise public awareness of the importance of prostate cancer screening, early detection and treatment.

While beginning at The West Clinic in Midtown, the ride ended at The Church Health Center, Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell, made opening remarks. Dr. Sylvia Richey, a doctor and a cancer patient spoke to the audience about the importance of screening, education, and new treatments.

**ADHD Camp Turns 10!**

The annual All Days are Happy Days Camp celebrated it’s 10 year anniversary at the Lichterman Nature Center in June. The camp helps children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to develop their self-esteem and learn positive social behavior through fun activities.
On April 28 in downtown Memphis, bicycle riders embarked on a hot and windy ride of either 10, 35 or 62 miles to culminate more than $80,000 of fundraising efforts during the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure.

UT Health Science Center had a very large and visible contingent of students, faculty and staff, raising more than $11,000. The team, including eight dental students, donned special orange UT cycling jerseys.

“The Tour de Cure was an amazing experience, and I consider myself lucky to have participated,” said first-year dental student Zac Berry. “My college roommate and good friend has type 1 diabetes and it is an everyday battle.”

In 2011, more than 55,000 cyclists in 80 events raised more than $18 million to support the mission of the American Diabetes Association: to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of 25.8 million Americans with diabetes through educational outreach, advocacy efforts and critical research.

UTHSC wishes to express special thanks to Clear Channel Outdoor for donating digital billboard space to promote the event.

Team UTHSC Rides at Tour de Cure

From left: D-1 students Richard Sullivan, Tyler Allen, Zac Berry and Geoff West finish the 35-mile leg of the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure.

Offense–Defense Camp Prepares Future NFL Players

In June, UTHSC hosted the annual Offense–Defense (O-D) camp, where students ages 7 to 14 worked on their football skills with actual NFL coaches and players.

“With a track record of proven performance and placement for high school students, NFL coaches and players giving instruction, and the national exposure for the campers, this is truly an experience that can benefit the entire community,” said Frank Harrison, director of Campus Recreation.

High school students focused on upper thump tempos, college placement, video training, player-ranking systems, and position-specific evaluation. Younger participants focused on full contact, superior instruction, video feedback, and technical evaluation.

At the end of the camp, there was an awards ceremony for the student players to acknowledge all of their improvements.

Alumni Mingle at Mixer Downtown

On June 21, more than 25 alumni gathered at the Westin Hotel in Downtown Memphis to enjoy hors d’oeuvres and the company of friends. Mike McCay, UTAA senior director of Marketing and Career Services, gave attendees the opportunity to learn how to utilize LinkedIn to find business contacts, conduct business research, and generate employment opportunities.

For more information about the Memphis-Shelby County UT Alumni Chapter, check out Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/MemphisShelbyCountyUTAlumniChapter.

Crossing the Finish Line at Medicine in May 5K

On May 18, more than 250 faculty, students and staff ran in the inaugural Medicine in May 5K race.

More than 400 attended the health fair as part of the expo, which featured 20 vendors with information about pertinent health topics.

More than $30,000 was raised at the event to benefit the Peri Ankh Student Endowment Fund and the UT College of Medicine.