**UTHSC Reactivates BSN Program**

In December, the Tennessee Board of Nursing approved a proposal from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) to reactivate its baccalaureate program — the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

“With this final approval, we can now move forward to recruit outstanding students for our renewed BSN program,” stated Laura A. Talbot, PhD, EdD, RN, dean for the UTHSC College of Nursing.

The college plans to enroll 70 students for the BSN class that will begin matriculating Aug. 1. The BSN application submission deadline is April 1.

“The reactivation of our BSN program is a response to the health care needs of our city, state and region,” said Dean Talbot. “Well-prepared nurses are a lynchpin in the health care system. They are almost always the first points of contact for patients, whether patients enter a health care setting through primary care, urgent care or any area in between.”

UTHSC suspended its BSN program in December 2009 when its last BSN class graduated.

“With health care needs expanding among nearly every population group, more highly skilled nurses are definitely needed to fill the gaps in our health care system,” she continued.

“Our BSN graduates have always received rigorous classroom training and immersive clinical experiences that prepare them to make a strong, positive difference for their patients and their employers as soon as they begin their careers.”

**One Stop Shop Aims to Reduce ‘Big Bounce’**

The One Stop Shop is open for business. As its name implies, it offers an array of services — Admissions, Bursar, Financial Aid, Registrar, and even Parking — in one convenient location in the Madison Plaza lobby. A grand opening and ribbon cutting were held Jan. 18, though it had been open since students returned from break.

The One Stop Shop was the brainchild of Cheryl Scheid, PhD, vice chancellor of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs. “She’s been working toward this goal for five years,” said Sonya Smith, EdD, JD, associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

“When I first came here in 2006, Student Affairs was a mess!” Dr. Scheid said. “We found that 85 percent of students hadn’t gotten their financial aid checks on time.”

She said the problem was that not only were different departments geographically isolated from one another, they had different software systems that weren’t compatible.

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**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.

**From the Chancellor**

Faculty, Students and Staff,

In late January, Governor Haslam outlined his budget plans for UTHSC. I am very pleased to report that as a result of our performance, we are looking at another very favorable budget year.

The Governor has proposed a substantial outcomes and productivity increase in our budget. In addition, he has proposed a 1.5% increase in state compensation for state employees. In capital appropriation, he has proposed the $66 million renovation of the historic quadrangle portion of our campus (Nash, Crowe and Mooney buildings) as well as a large capital maintenance project for the General Education Building (GEB).

When completed, this historic quadrangle capital project will reflect a greater than $250 million investment in our campus over the past four years, when our state-funded and self-funded projects are considered. As outlined in a recent chancellor’s communication, we are rapidly transforming our Memphis campus with state-of-the-art education and research buildings as exemplified by the Regional Biocontainment Lab, the Cancer Research building, the Pharmacy building, and the Translational Science Research building.

In addition, the Governor committed $1.5 million to childhood obesity research, matching a similar $1.5 million commitment to UTHSC by St. Jude, and other major commitments by Le Bonheur and the Children’s Research Foundation. These commitments bode very well for the active ongoing expansion of our research mission, particularly when combined with major contributions and academic payments by our partner hospitals and faculty practice groups, as well as significant donations from our dental alumni.

The final budget awaits ratification by the legislature but we remain optimistic as to the final appropriation. I will communicate with you again with the final details following ratification by the legislature and the trustees.

In closing, I am grateful to President DiPietro, our trustees, the Governor and the legislature for their confidence in our institution. I am equally appreciative of the faculty, staff, students, residents and fellows whose performance made this possible.

Steve J. Schwab, MD
Chancellor
One Stop Shop Aims to Reduce “Big Bounce”  Continued from page 1

Dr. Scheid took a group of staff members to Nashville to look at a new software system called Banner. Purchasing Banner allowed the university to consolidate services.

“Now people in different departments can pull up the same screen,” she said. Still, she felt more was needed.

“We are having a lot of complaints about what students called ‘the Big Bounce,’” she continued. “Why should they be forced to go from one location to another to get all their questions answered and their problems resolved?”

While services could be provided online, “students still require high touch,” she said, adding, “They prefer sitting down with a person when it comes to dealing with a lot of money, as would you or I if we were getting a bank loan.”

When Dr. Scheid finally got the green light for the One Stop Shop, the project was completed quickly under a new director of admissions, William Carter, who joined UTHSC in November and hit the ground running: From the day he started at UTHSC, he had seven weeks to get the One Stop Shop ready for a walk-through Dec. 21.

He had ample experience: The One Stop Shop is the fourth student services center he’s gotten off the ground. It is, however, the first he’s helped to open in an institution composed primarily of graduate students. Carter thinks it may be the first such facility in a health science center in the country.

“We will have coverage, and not just coverage, but coverage by informed people,” Carter stressed. Staff from the Student Affairs office on the fifth floor of 910 Madison will rotate working downstairs in the One Stop Shop. “We will be able to handle whatever comes up, and provide students with one-on-one attention.”

Carter and Dr. Scheid both predicted services and staff may be added as they see what students want and don’t want. When a student logs off a computer in the One Stop Shop, a brief, electronic survey will pop up, providing UTHSC with up-to-date feedback. “We can sit up here and guess all day long,” Carter said. “It’ll be a lot easier and less frustrating simply to ask students what they want.”

Carter is also planning an online One Stop Shop. “Do you want to pay your bill?” he asked. “Click a button. Do you want to check on your financial aid package? Again, click a button.”

Students and alumni also may order transcripts through the National Student Clearinghouse by linking to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) has joined the National Student Clearinghouse, a non-profit organization.

According to Dr. Glenda Alexander, the university registrar, the National Student Clearinghouse will mean more accurate and efficient customer service for UTHSC students.

Acting as a single point of contact, the Clearinghouse provides enrollment status and deferment information for financial aid students to guaranty agencies, lenders, servicers and the U.S. Department of Education. All state and national guarantors, and most private lenders and servicers, participate in the Clearinghouse.

At the same time, National Student Clearinghouse complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects students’ privacy rights relative to their records.

Using student data provided by UTHSC, the Clearinghouse also will verify degrees in real time for employers, background search firms and recruiters. Commercial verifiers can confirm degrees online instantly, providing a fast and easy way to validate educational records and combat credentials fraud.

Most attractively for students, the Clearinghouse has a Student Self-Service component where students may print enrollment certificates, view their enrollment histories, track enrollment verifications and deferments, and obtain real-time information on student loans.

Students and alumni also may order transcripts through the National Student Clearinghouse by linking to the Registrar’s secure web page on the UTHSC site. The Clearinghouse charges a $2.95 processing fee for 24/7 access and on-demand order tracking with no delay. The transcript then is available for recipients worldwide.

Free transcripts remain available to students through Banner Self-Service. For more information about the National Student Clearinghouse, call the Registrar’s Office at 901-448-7770.

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Contribute to The Record
Submit information and photos to tbullar1@uthsc.edu. The deadline for the next issue of The Record is March 29.

UT Faculty Women’s Club
The UT Faculty Women’s Club is open to women faculty, wives of faculty, women officers of the General Administration and wives of officers. For more information, call Judy Palmer at (901) 753-9932 or email judypalm@gmail.com.

February: Railroad and Trolley Museum
March: Sedum Gardening with Paul Little
April: Member Presentations/Installation of Officers at the Women’s Exchange.

View News Notes
For a look at media exposure received by UTHSC faculty, staff and students, check out News Notes at http://www.uthsc.edu/news.
**Dr. McCullers Unveils Plans for Pediatric Obesity Clinic**

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) is partnering with Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare to launch a Center for Excellence in Pediatric Obesity. Jon McCullers, MD, unveiled the plans at the recent Let's CHANGE Summit hosted by Healthy Memphis Common Table. Dr. McCullers was the keynote speaker.

“To me, pediatric obesity is the No. 1 problem in Memphis with our kids,” said Dr. McCullers, chair of the Department of Pediatrics for UTHSC and pediatrician-in-chief for Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. “That's because it drives so much of the chronic disease in terms of high blood pressure, diabetes, sleep apnea, joint orthopedic problems and so on.”

Tennessee ranks sixth in the nation for childhood obesity, receiving a “F” on a national report card from the Trust for America's Health, a non-profit, non-partisan organization working to prevent disease, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which also focuses on improving the health of all Americans.

Roughly one-third of all school children in the area are obese or overweight. High rankings for children lead to even higher ones for adults: Two-thirds of adult Tennesseans are obese or overweight. If that doesn't change, today's children could be the first generation in centuries to lead shorter lives than their parents, according to research from Le Bonheur.

“Obesity-related issues cost Tennessee approximately $3.6 billion per year and account for more than 10 percent of all health care expenditures in the state,” Dr. McCullers said. “The medical costs to the state are just staggering,” he observed.

“There are signs of hope,” he added. “On a statewide basis, the obesity epidemic peaked about two years ago, so I think there has been some progress. This is better than five years ago. But there is still a long way to go.”

Preliminary plans call for an institution-wide effort with 10-12 physicians directly involved. The immediate priority, however, is bringing in what Dr. McCullers called “a nationally prominent leader for the program.” Once a leader is in place, he expects all the other elements to fall into place.

“We will have a clinic as a frontage piece that will be a referral clinic where kids who are obese, at risk for obesity or have complications from obesity can be taken care of in a multidisciplinary way,” Dr. McCullers said.

**Lose Weight and Make Money**

Imagine losing weight and making money. That's the idea behind Healthywage, which invites companies to compete in teams of five. The team that loses the most weight will split a grand prize of $10,000 — $2,000 per team member. The team that comes in second will split $5,000; the team that comes in third, $3,000.

The challenge runs Feb. 22 through May 17, so it is imperative to sign up as soon as possible. The cost is $20 per participant. Verified weigh-ins at University Health Services (UHS) will be held at the start and finish.

“Healthywage is a great incentive for people to lose weight and maintain the loss in a monitored, safe way, by using guidance from professionals in the health field via social media and technology,” said Frank Harrison, who directs the Fitness Center at UTHSC.

“The team idea creates accountability and the chance for members to receive not only self-satisfaction but a monetary reward. As a pillar of health, UTHSC is a participating company and will be supporting our teams not only with the facility, but different competitions, specialty classes and learning sessions along the way. We will also be an official weigh-in site for the competition with the aid of UHS.”

The program includes educational content and mini-contests to keep teams on track. Four weeks will focus on food and nutrition, four weeks on physical activity, and four weeks on long-term weight loss. Educational content will be delivered over a variety of media, including Facebook/Twitter chats with experts. Participants will even have mobile apps (for Android and iPhone) to track their progress and communicate with one another.

For more information, email rdodd@healthwage.com or go to [www.healthywage.com](http://www.healthywage.com).
**UTHSC to Have Major Role in Human Brain Project**

The European Commission has officially announced the selection of the Human Brain Project (HBP) as one of its two FET Flagship projects (Future and Emerging Technologies). The new project will federate European efforts to address one of the greatest challenges of modern science: understanding the human brain.

“UTHSC’s role is to assemble massive genetic data sets and to build computer systems for the analysis of brain function and disease,” said Robert W. Williams, PhD, UT-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology. “We will build a sophisticated tool kit for joint genetic studies of humans and mouse models of human brain disease.”

David Brancaccio of American Public Media’s “Marketplace” interviewed Dr. Williams on Jan. 29. The audio is available at [http://download.publicradio.org/podcast/marketplace_tech_report20130129_64.mp3?_kip_ipx=583527999-1359652979](http://download.publicradio.org/podcast/marketplace_tech_report20130129_64.mp3?_kip_ipx=583527999-1359652979).

Dr. Williams is one of four scientists in the United States who are part of the first phase of this massive project. The other three U.S. institutions involved in the project are the Allen Institute for Brain Science, the University of California Los Angeles and Yale University. For his part of the HBP, Dr. Williams and his collaborators in the United States and the EU could share approximately 7.3 million euros (about $9.8 million) in funding over 10 years.

The goal of the Human Brain Project is to pull together existing knowledge about the human brain and to reconstruct the brain, piece by piece, in supercomputer-based models and simulations. The models offer the prospect of a new understanding of the human brain and its diseases and of completely new computing and robotic technologies.

**Continued on page 18**

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**Hamilton Eye Institute Docs Travel to Panama**

For children in many countries, strabismus and ptosis — pronounced “TOH-sis” — are more than medical terms. Crossed eyes and drooping eyelids can cause emotional distress and even ostracism in addition to visual impairment.

Ophthalmologists in Panama, however, have been working to give children both sight and self-confidence through a program with ophthalmologists from the University of Tennessee’s Hamilton Eye Institute.

Niños Sanos, Niños Felices — meaning “Healthy Children, Happy Children” — is a program of the Fundación Pro-Integración that serves Panamanians with disabilities.

Barrett Haik, MD, Hamilton Professor of Ophthalmology and director of the UT Hamilton Eye Institute, has traveled to Panama for 15 years, performing surgeries on children born with strabismus and ptosis. Ernesto A. Calvo, MD, a fellow of Dr. Haik’s who visits Panama every two months, was instrumental in forging the link between HEI and the program.

“I realized there was an unmet need in my country,” he said. Dr. Calvo is also a clinical professor of ophthalmology at UTHSC.

In 2012, a group from HEI accompanied Dr. Haik: Margaret Phillips, MD, oculoplastic surgery instructor; DeRaye Boykins, MD, anesthesiologist; and HEI alumni Alan E. Oester, MD, and Adham Al-Hariri, MD.

“We have some very loyal alumni,” Dr. Haik said, adding, “I’m seeing a new era of volunteerism in young physicians.”

Volunteers from the University of Southern California and Panama joined the team from HEI, traveling at their own expense.

Working hand in hand with local physicians, Niños Sanos, Niños Felices brought pre-screened children and their families to the El Vigía Hospital in the village of Chitré.

“It’s a wonderful, cross-cultural collaboration,” Dr. Haik said. “Many of the children came from rural areas of Panama.”

Parents slept on floors and shared communal meals to give their children a fresh start in life.

Panama’s Health Ministry made a hospital available for the sole use of the ophthalmic specialists, who performed more than 140 surgeries in less than a week. Of those, approximately 100 corrected strabismus while 40 surgeries corrected ptosis.

Local physicians provided follow-up care to the children.

As the youths recovered in the post-operative area, the effects were obvious. Children who had spent their whole lives ashamed of their appearances beamed with new-found, confident smiles.

“Most of these children are younger than 10 years old,” said J. Thomas Ford, one of the program’s trustees. “They are at an age where they can get back their self-esteem. That’s just as important as recovering their eyesight.”

Dr. Haik called the trip “a tremendous experience” which gave him a sense of warmth and accomplishment. “One of the most rewarding things is to see the children and their parents smiling,” he said. “A stay of about six days changes the life of these kids. They look better and feel better.”

At the project’s conclusion, the First Lady of Panama, Marta Linares de Martinelli, invited Dr. Haik to the presidential residence where she presented him and world-renowned pediatric ophthalmologist Kenneth W. Wright, MD, of the University of Southern California with the highest award a non-Panamanian can receive, the Condecoración Nacional de la Orden Vasco Núñez de Balboa. The First Lady presented program directors Jorge Arrue, MD, and Felix Ruiz, MD, with the Condecoración Nacional de la Orden Belisario Porras.
Two of the best-kept secrets of UTHSC are University Health Services (UHS) and University Dental Practice.

**University Health Services (UHS)**

UHS is a primary care facility not just for students, but everyone on the UTHSC campus, welcoming UTHSC employees and offering the following services:
- Primary care
- Acute care
- On-the-job injury care
- Needle-stick and exposure care
- Occupational health services
- Physicals
- Pap smears
- Vaccines
- Lab work
- Referrals
- Provider on-call 24/7

“The University Health Services goal is to create and sustain a healthy campus community, supporting a healthy social, learning and working environment,” said Lawrence Madlock, MD, director of UHS. “Because we know your time is valuable, UHS emphasizes our convenient location, our friendly and caring staff that includes a physician and three nurse practitioners, and especially our convenient online appointment scheduler,” said Christa Deiss, UHS coordinator.

Employees and students can schedule their appointments through a secure web-portal called OpenCommunicator by going to [http://pnc-portal.uthsc.edu](http://pnc-portal.uthsc.edu) and using their net ID and password.

OpenCommunicator allows patients to:
- Schedule, reschedule or cancel appointments online 24/7
- Exchange secure messages with staff
- Complete pre-appointment forms
- Review, update and print immunization records

UHS is also able to file insurance for all of the UTHSC sponsored plans – BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Cigna and United Student Resources.

Many UTHSC employees travel out of the country for business or pleasure. UHS is a valuable resource for travel requirements through its travel medicine clinic.

UHS is located at 910 Madison Ave., Suite 922. For more information, call 901-448-5630 or go to [www.uthsc.edu/univheal](http://www.uthsc.edu/univheal).

**University Dental Practice**

The University Dental Practice is a select group of full-time faculty members of the UTHSC College of Dentistry. It refers to itself as “the best-kept secret around UTHSC.” Just as University Health Services can be your primary care facility, University Dental Practice (UDP) can be your regular dentist. Like UHS, UDP accepts most dental insurance programs.

UDP aims to serve as both a model for students, demonstrating the highest quality of oral health care, and as an outlet for faculty members striving to remain current on evolving trends. Above all, it is a convenient source for UTHSC faculty and staff to obtain quality dental care.

Services offered by UDP include:
- Provider on-call 24/7
- Acute care
- On-the-job injury care
- Needle-stick and exposure care
- Occupational health services
- Physicals
- Pap smears
- Vaccines
- Lab work
- Referrals
- Provider on-call 24/7

“ASPREE is being conducted in cities across our nation, as well as globally. The study assesses whether aspirin can not only prolong life, but also support a life free of physical disability and/or dementia for healthy, older people.”

ASPREE is being conducted in cities across our nation, as well as globally. The study will enroll a total of 6,500 healthy men and women age 65 and older in the United States and another 12,500 in Australia. Since enrollment goals for Caucasian Americans have been met, only minority persons are eligible to participate currently. In Memphis, study coordinators have enrolled participants but are looking for more volunteers of African-American, Asian or Latino descent. Recruitment for this study is continuing. Call 901-448-8400 to see if you qualify.

Aspirin may help older individuals to live well longer by delaying the onset of illnesses. In fact, previous studies indicate that low dose aspirin reduces the risk of heart attacks, strokes and vascular events in middle-aged people. Low dose aspirin may also assist with preventing cognitive decline and specific forms of cancer such as bowel cancer. While aspirin can thwart cardiovascular attacks and strokes in individuals with established heart disease, the effect of aspirin for elderly people without a history of cardiovascular disease is less certain and will be determined by this research.

“The ASPREE trial may provide important information regarding the benefits and risks of aspirin, a low cost, easily available medication for older, healthy individuals,” says Suzanne Satterfield, MD, DrPH, associate professor in the UTHSC Department of Preventive Medicine and principal investigator for the Memphis study. Participants in the study will be randomly assigned to take either a low dose aspirin or placebo (a pill that contains no medicine) daily for about five years. Study pills and medical exams are being provided at no charge to you. Patients will receive initial reports on specific health markers, including their functional and cognitive ability. Any changes will be monitored throughout the study. Once enrolled, participants will be seen annually.

To participate in the study, interested minority men and women are asked to call the UTHSC Department of Preventive Medicine at 901-448-8400. Referrals of family or friends who may be interested will be welcomed.

Two of the best-kept secrets of UTHSC are University Health Services (UHS) and University Dental Practice.
News from Knoxville and Chattanooga

Dr. Michelle Farland Earned 2012 New Educator Award

Michelle Z. Farland, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, received the 2012 American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s (ACCP) New Educator Award during the ACCP’s Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Fla.

Dr. Farland is associate professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Knoxville campus.

Dr. Farland received her doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2005. She joined UTHSC in 2007 and was promoted to associate professor in 2012. She also serves as director of the University of Tennessee Pharmacist Practice-Based Research Network.

Dr. Eric Carlson Named “Committee Person of the Year”

Eric R. Carlson, DMD, MD, professor and chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, received the 2012 “Committee Person of the Year” Award during the 94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Under his stewardship, the Parameters of Care Committee produced two editions of clinical practice guidelines for the 11 recognized areas of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Carlson is also a section editor for the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, chair of the Residency Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and serves on the American Dental Association’s Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Dr. Osborne Joins International Committee

Dustin Osborne, PhD, assistant professor of Radiology, has joined an international committee charged with creating standards for Single Photon Emission Computer Tomography — SPECT. The committee of the National Electrical Manufacturer’s Association (NEMA) spans academia and industry, with members from Britain, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands and Australia, and is charged with defining standards used in testing the performance of preclinical SPECT imaging equipment. SPECT measures the distribution of radioactive compounds injected into a subject to target a specific region or disease.

Dr. Waters Named to Who’s Who Worldwide

Who has recognized William Bedford Waters, MD, professor and Associate Residency Program director, Urology, for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in medical education. He has been teaching at the UT Graduate School of Medicine since 2001. Dr. Waters also was featured in U.S. News and World Report as one of four top physicians in Tennessee. Thanks to his promotion of early prostate cancer detection in the African-American community, he was recognized as one of 25 African-Americans “Making It Happen” during African-American History Month in February 2005.

UTHSC Student Initiates Group in Knoxville

Andy Harris, a fourth-year medical student at the UTHSC on rotation at the UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville, organized the Knoxville Student Orthopedic Interest Group.

UT Knoxville Wins “Most Spirited” Award

“Today Show” had a contest to choose the Most Spirited campus in America. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, won. The show aired live from the school Sept. 19 during the contest and again Oct. 1 after winning with more than 150,000 votes.

Dr. Winston Caine, Jr., Receives Tribute

Winston Caine, Jr., MD, FACP, died Oct. 23, 2012. He served as professor in the UT College of Medicine, Chattanooga from 1975 to 2012, where he conducted weekly MKSAP (Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program) review sessions for residents and faculty until his death.

David Seaberg, MD, dean of the College of Medicine, Chattanooga, said that Dr. Caine had significantly improved the lives of students, residents, patients and colleagues. The Internal Medicine Education Foundation has established a Winston P. Caine, Jr. Lectureship Series in his honor.

Simulation Center Earns Accreditation

The University of Tennessee Center for Advanced Medical Simulation recently became the only facility in Tennessee — and one of just 67 in the world — to earn accreditation as a Level I Comprehensive Accredited Education Institute (AEI) from the American College of Surgeons (ACS). Level I is the top accreditation available. The co-directors of the center believe the accreditation reflects the availability of advanced education and training through simulation in the Knoxville region.

“With accreditation comes the opportunity and encouragement to collaborate with other institutions on research efforts,” said Dr. Leonard Hines, co-director of the UT Center for Advanced Medical Simulation.

“This will expand our initiatives directed toward continually improving the quality of medical education and patient safety.”

Dr. Hines and co-director Dr. Paul Huffstutter, longtime vascular and general surgeons, are assistant professors at the UT Graduate School of Medicine on the campus of the University of Tennessee Medical Center. They’ve seen the center expand from 400 to 6,500 square feet since it opened in 2007.

The University of Tennessee Center for Advanced Medical Simulation is a 6,500-square-foot multidisciplinary facility that offers a setting for physicians, nurses, technicians and other health care providers throughout the region to improve individual skills and practice team skills critical to patient safety. It also enables advanced education for residents, fellows and medical students from the Graduate School of Medicine and other institutions.

In addition to virtual reality technology, the center also provides low- and mid-fidelity training equipment essential for refining skills for virtually all health care professionals.

The AEI accreditation is a voluntary peer-review process. For a video tour, visit www.utmedicalcenter.org/frontiers-videos/#tour. For more information about the center, visit http://gsm.utmck.edu.

For more information about the University of Tennessee Medical Center, visit www.utmedicalcenter.org.
Dr. Huang Could Change Root Canals ... for the Better

Four years ago, George Huang, DDS, began a study to determine the feasibility of taking tissue from a healthy tooth and placing it in a diseased root canal. He began the research at Boston University but in May 2012, Dr. Huang joined the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. If this research is successful, it could change how root canals are performed.

“We are trying to revolutionize endodontics,” said Dr. Huang, who is director of Bioscience Research. The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research recently awarded $1.8 million in funding to Dr. Huang, extending a grant originally received in 2008. The funds will be distributed during the next three years. The concept of trying to regenerate tooth growth by inserting stem cell tissue has been around since the 1960s, with little progress. Dr. Huang attributes this to the lack of technology available at that time. “In the past decade or so, the discipline of modern tissue engineering has become more advanced,” Dr. Huang said. “Coupled with a better understanding of stem cells, the science has given rise to a new field of study, regenerative medicine.”

Traditionally, a root canal involves removing decayed root tissue, or dental pulp, from the tooth’s canal and filling that space with an artificial rubber-like substance. If Dr. Huang is successful, the canals will be injected with stem cell tissue. Not only would this avoid the need for the rubber-like filling, it could actually stimulate healthy tissue growth, essentially rebuilding the tooth. “We isolate the stem cells, grow them and insert them back into the tooth,” Dr. Huang explained. “Eventually, the root will regenerate.” He estimated the cells might regenerate within a two-month period.

Thus far, similar research in other countries has been successful. A veteran endodontist, Dr. Huang said perfecting this method would offer patients a choice. His research also examines harvesting the stem cells from a person other than the patient. Clinical trials on humans could begin in 10 years.

Dr. Krukowski Joins UTHSC, Quoted in Media

Rebecca Krukowski, PhD, was quoted in a WebMD article on a study on weight loss. The study concluded that Weight Watchers can be as effective as, if not more effective than, a weight loss program designed for a patient by a professional.

Researchers from Baruch College in New York City found that people who underwent weight loss programs that included intensive training and multi-component counseling lost significant amounts of weight over a 48-week period. The study was published in the journal Obesity.

“I think this is a sign that we have learned from these weight loss programs led by a health professional,” Dr. Krukowski said. “Now we know that they can be disseminated by trained, lay health educators, including in commercial programs.”

Dr. Krukowski joined UTHSC in October. She is a clinical psychologist and an assistant professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine. She was previously at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences’ Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health.

For more information on the study, see http://www.medicaldaily.com/articles/12611/20121010/diet-weight-watchers-effective-seeing-doctor-study.htm#UZrGzur1zWDL1Bzl.99.

HR Update

Performance Evaluations

Performance evaluations for the 2012 review cycle are due to Human Resources no later than March 31. The University of Tennessee Health Science Center wishes to ensure that all university employees benefit from effective, appropriate and regular evaluation by their immediate supervisors.

Performance evaluations are an intricate tool used on our campus to create a culture that values employee performance. We strive to be transparent about the university’s goals and the department’s objectives. Evaluations are essential to efficient management and keeping team members informed of their progress in carrying out their assigned duties and responsibilities.

We have scheduled performance evaluation training for those individuals with performance management responsibility. Training dates and times can be found on our portal at http://uthsc.edu/hr/training. You also can find more information about the performance evaluation process on our website at http://www.uthsc.edu/hr.

Life Insurance Changes

The State of Tennessee has contracted with Minnesota Life to replace Unum as the carrier for our Optional Group Term Life Insurance Program, effective Jan. 1, 2013. Enrolled members’ certificates of coverage have been automatically transferred to Minnesota Life. There will be an open enrollment period in the spring when employees will have the opportunity to enroll in term life insurance and/or make changes to their policy. More information will be forthcoming when dates are finalized.

The State of Tennessee will no longer offer universal life insurance. Employees who currently carry universal life insurance through Unum Provident will continue their contract with Unum. Those who have any questions should call Minnesota Life Service Center at 1-866-881-0631 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. CT or contact the UTHSC Benefits Office at 448-4876 or 448-5577.

2013 Blackboard Assessment

In February, UTHSC will conduct the first in a series of ongoing assessments of its official learning management system (LMS), known as Blackboard. The Blackboard Assessment will begin Feb. 11 and consist of two online surveys, a version for students and a version for faculty and staff. The surveys, which will take five to 10 minutes, are designed to assess whether Blackboard continues to meet UTHSC’s teaching and learning needs.

To learn more, visit http://courses.uthsc.edu/assessment2013.
Outstanding Alumni Honored

Four University of Tennessee Health Science Center alumni received the 2012 College of Medicine Outstanding Alumni Award. Kelly Hunt, MD, Jon H. Robertson, MD, Bobby Higgs, MD, and Joseph A. Smith, MD, were honored at a luncheon Oct. 12 at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tenn.

“These alumni not only serve as role models for colleagues and students, but also have distinguished themselves, and the UT Health Science Center, in all areas of our mission: education, research, patient care and community service,” said David Stern, MD, executive dean of the UTHSC College of Medicine. “We salute Drs. Hunt, Robertson, Higgs and Smith, who have each made such a significant contribution to UTHSC.”

Kelly Hunt, MD

Dr. Hunt (Class of ’86) received her medical degree with highest honors from UTHSC in 1986. From 1986 to 1993, she completed her postgraduate training at the UCLA School of Medicine. From 1994 to 1996, she was a surgical oncology fellow at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She joined the faculty of MD Anderson in 1996. Along with being professor of surgery in the Department of Surgical Oncology, Dr. Hunt is also the chief of the Surgical Breast Section in the department and the associate medical director at the Nellie B. Connally Breast Center. She has an active role in the Breast Cancer Research Program, a collaboration of 84 physicians and scientists.

With a focus on breast cancer diagnosis and treatment, Dr. Hunt is a pioneer in establishing the technique of sentinel lymph node (SLN) biopsy in breast cancer, introducing the technique at MD Anderson and demonstrating that it results in fewer lymph node dissections for patients who have a complete response after chemotherapy. This has resulted in decreased morbidity and improved quality of life, becoming the standard of treatment at MD Anderson. As chair of the Breast Committee for the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG), Dr. Hunt is involved in the development of practice-changing clinical trials and the mentoring of young investigators.

Dr. Hunt has made a significant impact on how breast cancer patients are treated, but she said finding a cure for cancer is at the top of her “to do” list.

Jon H. Robertson, MD

Dr. Robertson, (Class of ’71), began his neurosurgical residency at UTHSC in 1975 after two years as an emergency room physician at the City of Memphis Hospitals. He attended Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College), receiving his bachelor’s degree in 1968. Following his residency in neurosurgery in 1979, Dr. Robertson became a member of the Semmes-Murphey Neurologic and Spine Institute and an assistant professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at UTHSC. He was promoted to associate professor in 1984, and, after serving a year as interim chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, to chair in 1997.

Although retired from UTHSC, Dr. Robertson continues as an affiliated faculty member and practices at Semmes-Murphey. He has served as a board member at both Semmes-Murphey and the Medical Education & Research Institute in Memphis. Dr. Robertson called his work ethic his greatest strength, evidenced by his dedication to many professional organizations, including the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Society of University Neurosurgeons and the Society of Neurological Surgeons.

Dr. Robertson is also an author, having written for nearly 50 publications and as well as the books, Lasers in Neurosurgery and Cranial Base Surgery. He has co-authored 25 book chapters and given approximately 200 presentations worldwide.

Bobby Higgs, MD

Dr. Higgs (Class of ’56) retired in 1997 after 35 years as a pediatrician.

“My interest in pediatrics only intensified during my family practice residency at the University of Colorado,” he said. “Young people are generally honest, entertaining and candid, so it has been a joy to be a pediatrician.”

During his career, he was engaged in numerous professional organizations including the American Board of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Tennessee Medical Association, the Tennessee Pediatric Society and the University of Tennessee Medical Alumni Council. He served as chair of the Tennessee chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics from 1985 to 1988 and as president of the West Tennessee Consolidated Medical Assembly.

While he is no longer practicing, Dr. Higgs continues to follow his passion of reaching out to others in need. For more than a decade, he has volunteered at West Tennessee Healthcare Hospice. On Mondays, he counsels and mentors troubled teens at Youth Town, a Christian residential treatment center, and on Sundays, he ministres to those in prison.

Joseph A. Smith, MD

Dr. Smith (Class of ’74) received his medical degree from UTHSC and completed two years of surgery residency at the University of Texas Southwestern, followed by a urology residency at the University of Utah and a fellowship in urologic oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

A professor of surgery and chair of the Department of Urologic Surgery at Vanderbilt University, Dr. Smith holds the distinguished William L. Bray Chair in Urologic Surgery. For 26 years, he has been on the Best Doctors in America list by Castle Connolly. He was also listed among the Top Five surgeons for cancer care in the country by Time magazine. Under his leadership, his department at Vanderbilt has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report.

Dr. Smith has given numerous hours as president of various organizations, including the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association, the Society of Urologic Oncology and the American Board of Urology. He also served as chair of the Residency Review Committee of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

An author of six books, Dr. Smith is an associate editor of the Journal of Urology and editor of Hinman’s Atlas of Urologic Surgery.
Scholarship Honors Dr. Wall

Thanks to the generosity of the UTHSC College of Medicine alumni and families, an endowed student scholarship has been created in honor of Chancellor Emeritus Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD. The first recipient of the $50,000 award, dubbed the Dr. Hershel P. Wall Endowed Scholarship, will be named in fall 2013.

“Dr. Wall is Volunteer medicine,” said Joseph DeLozier, MD, a 1982 graduate of the UTHSC College of Medicine and donor to the effort. “He is an example to doctors and our society of what we should all be about — unconditional giving to his students, colleagues, patients, friends, and even strangers. There will be others to follow, but he has created the path and the standard, all out of love.” Dr. DeLozier’s wife, Jan, is also a COM graduate; their daughter, Meg, is a UTHSC student. J. Stephen Rich, MD, a 1974 COM graduate, and his wife, Susan, joined the DeLozier family in support of this scholarship.

“Dr. Hershel Wall was the most influential professor of my medical school career,” Dr. Rich said. “By providing scholarships for medical students, this effort simultaneously honors my mentor and positively impacts future graduates from the UTHSC College of Medicine. “I can think of no better investment.”

To discuss donating to the Dr. Hershel P. Wall Endowed Scholarship Fund, contact Zach Pretzer, director of Development for the UTHSC College of Medicine, at (901) 448-4975 or zpretzer@uthsc.edu.

A UTHSC alumnus who graduated from the College of Medicine in 1960, Dr. Wall has served as UTHSC chancellor, interim dean for the UT College of Medicine, associate dean for Admissions and Student Affairs and division chief of General Pediatrics. More recently, he has served as special assistant to the UTHSC chancellor and the UT president, focusing on fundraising, capital development and alumni relations.

College of Pharmacy Reaches Fundraising Milestone, Honors Dr. Eoff

Jim Eoff, executive associate dean of the College of Pharmacy, got a surprise Dec. 19. What he thought was to be a meeting turned out to be a party with not one but two major announcements: The College of Pharmacy had reached a fundraising milestone of $250,000 and planned to name its new Student Affairs Suite on the second floor after Dr. Eoff.

Alumni, media and special guests were on hand, with a live video hookup to the college’s Knoxville campus, as Dr. Eoff accepted an oversized “check” for $250,000 on behalf of the college. UTHSC Chancellor Steve Schwab cited “the overwhelming response of students” as evidence of Eoff’s positive influence. Jada Williams, UTHSC director of Annual Giving, said that more than 600 students had contributed so far.

A larger, more public celebration will be held in the spring when the fundraising appeal ends.

Dr. Talbot Speaks at UT Nursing Cadet Class of ’48 Reunion

A very special group of women — alumni from the UT Cadet Nurse Corps Class of 1948 — gathered at their 64-year class reunion in October. Theirs was the last class of nurses to receive special training preparing them to treat soldiers wounded in World War II.

Dr. Laura Talbot, Dean of the College of Nursing at UTHSC, was the featured guest speaker. Guests included Amanda Lane and Jada Williams of Alumni Affairs and Nell Blair of Development.

The nurse corps was created in 1943 as part of a massive recruitment campaign by the federal government under the leadership of the U.S. Surgeon General. This was so successful that by 1945, 85 percent of nursing students in the country were cadet nurses. This nursing class didn’t complete the cadet training because an armistice ending World War II was signed, but they went on to nursing careers in areas from public health to neurology.

Hosted by alumna Bea Barnes and her husband Roy, the event spanned two days.

UTHSC Reactivates BSN Continued from page 1

“We are committed to maintaining these same standards of excellence in both the academic and clinical arenas as we restart the BSN program.”

The 70 BSN students will include a class of 30 RN (Registered Nurse) to BSN candidates. The remaining 40 will be traditional students (with 60 or more credits) and second-degree students (college graduates with a desire to change career paths).

Those accepted into the accelerated BSN program will be expected to graduate in December 2014, after 17 months of academic and clinical training.

“As changes in health care unfold, we need to sharpen our focus and emulate successful models of care, with special emphasis on providing primary care,” said Steve J. Schwab, MD, UTHSC chancellor, adding, “Delivering cost-effective, high-quality team health care requires that we develop cohorts of collaborative nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and physicians. The need for nurses in our state and region is huge, especially in West Tennessee where we have a slightly higher indigent population. The reactivation of our BSN program will help us and our health care partners serve the rising number of patients who need primary care.”

To learn more about the UTHSC BSN program, contact Jamie Garrett or Roylynn Germain in the UTHSC College of Nursing. They can be reached at 901-448-6125 or email at jGarret25@uthsc.edu or RGermain@uthsc.edu
Cops’ Corner
Cops’ Corner is a round-up of all campus police updates, awards and events.

UTHSC Campus Police would like to present five new officers to our campus community:

Holiday Food Drive Yielded 4,800 Meals

Campus-wide donations to the holiday food drive that ended Dec. 5 yielded 2,922 pounds of food and $1,240 in monetary donations. This resulted in more than three tons of food, providing 4,800+ meals for families in need. This summer, the UTHSC campus gave $2,000 in monetary donations. Called “Packing the Orange Piggy Banks — with our pocket change,” the campaign yielded more than two and a half tons of food, providing 4,000 meals for families in need.
UTHSC’s total impact for 2012 was more than 8,800 meals.

Dr. Migliorati Joined Panel Discussion on BONJ

Cesar Migliorati, DDS, PhD, served on a panel discussion at the American Dental Association’s Annual Session. Dr. Migliorati is professor and chair of Diagnostic Sciences and Oral Medicine. The panel discussed the use of drug holidays and CTX testings to help reduce risk of bisphosphate-associate osteochondrosis of the jaw. BONJ is a rare side effect of long-term use of bisphosphonates, such as the brand name drug Fosomax.


Dr. Lieberman Quoted on Children’s Food Allergies, Bullying

Jay Lieberman, MD, assistant professor of allergy and immunology at UTHSC, was the lead author of a study that appeared in the Annals of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology.

“The one thing that makes food allergy different from bullying because of, say, obesity, is that in addition to the emotional and psychological distress, you run the risk of a physical harm if the allergen is indeed placed in food,” Dr. Lieberman said.

For more information, the article is available at http://health.usnews.com/health-news/news/articles/2012/11/02/food-allergies-can-make-kids-targets-for-bullies.

Say ‘Boo!’ to Flu Broke Records; Nearly 2,100 Immunized

In October, UTHSC pharmacy students held Boo Flu, an annual event that gave professors, staff and students an opportunity to receive a free flu vaccination.

The supply of vaccines ran out after students had immunized 1,850 people. A subsequent event was held to give flu shots to 240 people who did not get theirs, or who missed the first date. The total turnout was a record-breaker, easily surpassing the 1,500 to 1,600 flu shots dispensed in years past.
UTHSC encourages everyone to get a flu shot in keeping with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) advice that people receive one as soon as the vaccine becomes available.

Last year, about 150 million doses were produced to protect people during flu season, which typically peaks in January and February. Although CDC figures show that last year’s flu season was relatively mild, officials warn that is not indicative of this year’s flu season.

Controlled Substances Disposal a Success

“It went well,” Safety Officer John Bossier said of the second annual “Controlled Substances Disposal Day” at UTHSC which was held Dec. 12.

According to Bossier, the idea originated with researchers, some of whom had drugs that had been expired for several years. The Safety Office could not collect and dispose of them, he said, because it is the responsibility of the license holder to maintain physical custody of these materials at all times. He contacted the nearest Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) office, which is in Nashville, for a list of “reverse distributors” — vendors authorized to receive and dispose of controlled substances. UTHSC chose Reliable Pharmaceutical Returns.

“In 2012, we had 12 researchers who took part in the event. All were properly processed. There were no orphaned or non-compliant outliers that required special variance from the DEA.”

Last year, drugs were turned in that were not readily associated with an active license. The reasons for this varied. Some were drugs that were left behind when a license holder retired. Others were drugs that were given for use as teaching aids.

The DEA permitted UTHSC to process those unique circumstances with a letter explaining the situation, signed by an active license holder. There were 20 participants in the 2011 event.
Robert Macklin is the 2012 Thomas C. Lichterman Employee of the Year. Macklin, carpenter foreman for building maintenance, has been an employee for 30 years. The award was presented Dec. 4 at the holiday party in the Student-Alumni Center.

Finalists for the award were: James Corrigan, Charles Gutelius, Reneé Niter, Barbara Patton, Dianne Robbins and Charles Taliaferro.

The Thomas C. Lichterman Award is given to a deserving, non-exempt, full-time employee at the UT Health Science Center who has contributed to the university above and beyond the usual scope of their jobs. In addition to a plaque, the winner received a $1,500 cash award.

Outstanding Employees Recognized at Holiday Party

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Teresa Franklin received the 2012 Chancellor’s Exempt Staff Award (CESA). Franklin, program manager of the Blues Project in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, has worked for UTHSC for four years.

CESA finalists were Monica Fleming and Jane Poulos. The award recognizes non-faculty exempt employees who have made significant contributions beyond that normally expected for their positions. Michael and Chandra Alston, co-chairs for non-exempt staff and non-faculty exempt staff groups during the UTHSC Family Campaign, are the original donors behind the award. Like the Lichterman Award, the CESA is an award of $1,500.

Penczner Paintings Benefit UTHSC

On Nov. 8, Jolanda Penczner, widow of the late artist Paul Penczner, and Memphis philanthropist and designer Pat Kerr Tigrett, a former student of Penczner’s, co-hosted a reception for 200 guests at the Memphis Botanic Garden to celebrate the artist’s legacy.

The works represented a diverse selection of styles, subjects and media from more than 400 works owned by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. The artist’s widow Jolanda donated the collection and her husband’s studio in Midtown Memphis to UTHSC.

All proceeds from sale of the Penczner collection will support an endowment named for him in the UTHSC Department of Physiology. The endowment will focus on cardiovascular research. Penczner works were available for display and sale at the reception.

The Hungarian-born artist came to Memphis in 1951 with his German-born wife Jolanda. 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. His works hang in the White House and the Vatican collections.

Anyone wishing more information may contact Zach Pretzer in the Development Office at zpretzer@uthsc.edu.
People

Brian S. Biesman, MD, FACS, received the 2012 Henry Baylis Award from the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) in November during the society’s 43rd annual symposium in Chicago.

Dr. Biesman is associate professor in the Department of Oculoplastics at UTHSC and director of the Nashville Centre for Laser and Facial Surgery.

Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, has been invited to serve on the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research. Her term begins Feb. 1 and ends Jan. 31, 2017.

She is University Distinguished Professor in the College of Nursing.

Margaret (Peg) Hartig, PhD, FNP-BC, APN, has been named the assistant vice chancellor for Community Engagement and Interprofessional Initiatives.

Dr. Smith Named Executive of the Year

Debbie Smith, EdD, associate vice chancellor for Research Administration, is the first woman named 2012 Executive of the Year by the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) Memphis chapter.

She was nominated by Ruthie Ruston, UTHSC grants and contracts specialist. The IAAP is a not-for-profit association founded in 1942 for office professionals, with approximately 40,000 members and 600 chapters worldwide.

Dr. Donkor Named Associate Dean for Student Affairs

The College of Graduate Health Sciences announced the appointment of Isaac O. Donkor, PhD, as associate dean for Student Affairs.

Dr. Donkor is professor and vice-chair in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy. He received his bachelor’s degree at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana, and his MS and PhD degrees in medicinal chemistry at Duquesne University.

Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of North Carolina, he joined the faculty of Xavier University before coming to UTHSC.

An expert on inhibitors of calpain-mediated protein degradation, Dr. Donkor served as program director for the PhD program in Pharmaceutical Sciences and as associate dean for Health Career Programs. Both programs have been highly successful, providing students with tools for success in their chosen field.

“Dr. Donkor’s knowledge and experience is a tremendous asset and unique skill set is an enormous asset to UTHSC,” said Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, FACHE, executive vice chancellor and chief operations officer.

Dr. van der Aa Joins UTHSC as CIO

Johannes J. van der Aa is the new Chief Information Officer for UTHSC, making him in charge of IT services.

Born in the Netherlands, Dr. van der Aa grew up in the town of Eindhoven, earning his master’s degree in electrical engineering from Eindhoven University of Technology in 1978.

He joined the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Florida in 1980 where he was part of a team of physicians, engineers, students and staff known as the Florida Anesthesia Computer and Engineering Team (FACET).

His interests there focused on patient monitoring for use during anesthesia. He also managed Information Technology (IT) services and staff. He added an ME degree from the University of Florida in 1987, and a PhD in medical electrical engineering from Eindhoven University in 1990.

Over time, the direction and management of the IT services, information systems and IT staff were added to his duties, ultimately changing his career from engineering to IT leadership.

In 2000, he became IT director of the Health Science Center at the University of Florida; in 2003, he stepped into the role of Assistant Vice President for Health Affairs for Information Services, overseeing an annual budget of more than $7.5 million.

“Dr. van der Aa’s varied background and unique skill set is an enormous asset to UTHSC,” said Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, FACHE, executive vice chancellor and chief operations officer.

From left, Ruthie Ruston, Dr. Debbie Smith and local IAAP chair Rita Jackson

Mona Wicks

Sheg Aranmolate

Dr. Donkor

Dr. van der Aa

Jan van der Aa, PhD
June 1: Kick of the Sixth Annual Summer Career Program at UTHSC

Summer Health Career Program Applications Due by Feb. 28

The Health Career Program (HCP) is accepting applications from high school and college students interested in health careers.

The Summer Science Institute is a two-week program for rising high school juniors and seniors. Outstanding high school students with strong academics, citizenship, community involvement and a commitment to pursuing careers in the sciences are invited to apply. Classroom lectures, experiential learning activities and exposure to academic programs at UTHSC will be provided. Students will participate in fetal pig dissection, medical tours of local centers, career development workshops, a community service project and an introduction to research.

Gloria Wilkins Retired After 40 Years

Gloria Wilkins retired after 40 years of service at the Hamilton Eye Institute. She was Clinical Records Department Supervisor in the Boling Center.

Save the Dates

Approved for 4 AMA credits
Presented by David J. Ward and Aliz C. Michel
930 Madison Ave., Third Floor, Freeman Auditorium
This course will help providers increase their awareness of the extent of the prescription drug diversion epidemic as well as mitigation strategies.
Registration is free and open to all College of Medicine faculty, residents, students and community physicians. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
For more information, call 901-448-5128 or email ateness@uthsc.edu.

April 12-14: Annual Family Medicine and Psychiatry CME: Healing the Whole Person, Body, Mind and Spirit
Approved for 21.5 AMA and AAFP credits
Fogelman Conference Center, University of Memphis
This joint program will provide practicing physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other health care professionals with an update on selected topics on the integration of family medicine and psychiatry. Registration is required. For more information, contact Marilyn Ward at 901-448-6012 or mwart9@uthsc.edu, or Courtnie Holliday at 901-448-0240 or cholliday3@uthsc.edu.

July 30-Aug. 3: Contemporary Issues in Obstetrics and Gynecology
AMA, ANCC and AAFP credits available
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort and Spa; Sandestin, Fla.
Using simulations and lectures, this course will provide up-to-date information on “hot button” topics facing OB/GYN physicians and nurses in the light of a changing paradigm of health care.
Online registration begins in March at www.utconferences.com/destin2013. For more information, call 901-448-5128 or email ateness@uthsc.edu.

HIV Workshop March 8-9
HIV/AIDS Network 2012 will host “Responding to the Challenges in the Mid-South” March 8-9 at UTHSC in the Student Alumni Center (SAC).
All workshops are scheduled to last 85 minutes. They will target individuals by involvement and interest in HIV work, such as clinicians, HIV program administrators/managers, allied health professionals and community stakeholders.
To register, or for more information, contact Timkiya Taylor at 901-379-7529 or email timkiya.taylor@shelbycountytn.gov.

Dr. Arthur Addressed EMTs

Adam Arthur, MD, MPH, associate professor of Neurosurgery at UTHSC, addressed a symposium of EMTs Nov. 15. The National EMS Academy (NEMSA) and Methodist Le Bonheur provided the 4th Annual Pre-Hospital Care Neuro Symposium, which drew 218 attendees. The aim was to educate EMTs and to thank them for the crucial work they do for patients before they reach the hospital.

Dr. Arthur serves on the staffs of Semmes-Murphey Neurologic and Spine Institute and the Neurology Department at Baptist Memorial Hospital, practicing both cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery.

Nominations for Harold Love Award Due by March 14

Five students and five faculty members from around the state will receive the 2013 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Awards. The $1,000 cash awards are presented by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and named for state legislator Harold Love.

Nominations must be received no later than March 14.

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Gloria Wilkins Retired After 40 Years

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UTHSC Researchers Recognized at Annual Innovation Awards

The University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) honored UT Health Science Center researchers Dec. 14 for their work in developing or commercializing novel compounds, treatments, medical devices and research tools that have the potential to transform the lives of people in Tennessee and throughout the world.

At the annual Innovation Awards ceremony, UTRF presented plaques and certificates to individuals earning patents and licenses. Researchers who started new businesses based on their inventions were also recognized.

“This event is to honor the researchers who have made inventions that are moving into and through commercial development,” Richard Magid, UTRF vice president, said. “UTRF is honored to support these inventors taking their discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace.”

Patents were awarded for unique technologies and to protect inventions that can benefit society. Fewer than 25 percent of the discoveries made at UT are eventually granted patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Being awarded a patent is an important milestone that validates the novelty of an invention.

Inventors awarded patents included:

- Duane Miller, U.S. Patent 8,080,682 “Substituted Acylanilides and Methods of Use Thereof”
- Duane Miller, and Mitchell Steiner, US Patent 8,008,828 “Treating Benign Prostate Hyperplasia with SARMS”
- Duane Miller, U.S. Patent 8,110,562 “Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators, Analogs, and Derivatives Thereof and Uses Thereof”
- Monica Jablonski, U.S. Patent 8,092,825 “Glycan Binding Protein as Therapeutic Targets for Retinal Disorders and Treatment Methods Based Thereon”
- Bob Moore, U.S. Patent 8,158,654 “Pyridine Non-Classical Cannabinoid Compounds and Related Methods of Use”
- Bob Moore, U.S. Patent 8,022,078 “Pyrimidine Classical Cannabinoid Compounds and Related Methods of Use”
- Bob Moore, U.S. Patent 8,124,771 “Pyridine Classical Cannabinoid Compounds and Related Methods of Use”

The ceremony recognized the inventors who had a technology out-licensed in the past year, and featured short presentations from each of the five startup companies that were launched during fiscal year 2012.

2012 Startups included:

- HandMinder Inc., represented by CEO James Bell and founders Yu Liu and Randall J. Nelson
- Raphael Biotech, represented by CEO Ed Roberson and founder Bob Moore
- Entac Medical, represented by CEO Buddy Lyons
- Infusense, represented by founder Edward Chaum
- Nanophthalmics, represented by founder Edward Chaum

The five startups in a single year represent a record for the UT Health Science Center, and account for more than half of the also-record nine startups that were launched from the University of Tennessee in 2012.

Research Roundup

Congratulations to the following UTHSC team members who have received grants.

William Armstrong, PhD
Neuronal mechanisms governing use of the hormone oxytocin
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Health
$1.5 million over five years

George Huang, DDS
The use of stem cell tissue in root canals
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
$1.8 million over three years

Lawrence M. Pfeiffer, PhD
New strategies for malignant melanomas
Tiffany Seagroves, PhD
How PARP-1-targeting drugs may inhibit chemotherapy-activated reactions
Wenqing Qi, PhD
Chemotherapy resistance in oxygen-deprived cells
Zhaohui Wu, MD, PhD
Novel therapies for pancreatic cancer

The West Clinic, Methodist Healthcare, UTHSC
$250,000 this year

Robert Klesges, PhD
Obesity in the U.S. Air Force
National Institute of Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
$3 million over five years

Francesca-Fang Liao, PhD
AD Pathogenesis in a Novel Mouse Diet Model with a Partial eNOS Deficiency
National Institute on Aging
$412,500 dispersed over two years

Gadiparthi Rao, PhD
Mechanisms of retinal angiogenesis
National Eye Institute
$1.5 million over four years

Compiled from information provided by the Department of Research Administration.

Postdoc Research Day Dec. 14

Students and faculty review research at the annual Postdoc Research Day, Dec. 14, 2012, in the Student-Alumni Center.

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, Harriet Van Vleet Professor and chair of the Department of Physiology, presented “Serendipity or Hard Work: Transitioning from Postdoc to Faculty.”

Edward Chaum, MD, PhD, and founder of two 2012 startups, Infusense and Nanophthalmics, speaks at the UTRF luncheon Dec. 14.
Striving to Heal the Broken Village

On Feb. 7, more than 60 government officials, clergy, survivors of violence, community members, and institutional representatives from the Memphis area gathered to participate in Healing the Broken Village Part II. Held on the UTHSC campus, the half-day meeting focused on ways to make Memphis and Shelby County a better place.

The first Healing the Broken Village conference was held at UTHSC in October, where the group made the case for the need and began the conversation on how to confront local community, family and health issues. The Emotional Fitness Centers of Tennessee and UTHSC partnered to host this follow-up community discussion which focused on violence.

The three sessions during the February conference were titled:

- Health/Mental Health: How Can The Village Partner
- Criminal Justice System: How Can The Village Partner
- Discussing How the Churches Can Be the Missing Link

Panlists covered a range of topics that included mental illness, youth truancy, domestic violence, and criminal justice programs to reduce recidivism in addiction and criminal behavior.

“We can’t pray it away,” said Dr. Altha Stewart of the Just Care Family Network, in reference to mental health problems. “We have to deal with it head on ... We have to acknowledge the needs.”

“Sometimes in our community we normalize the problem,” stated Dr. Audrey Townsel, Director of Mental Health, Shelby County Jails. “For example, the guy that’s speaking to the pole on the corner, we look at him and we keep walking past him, and we say, well he’s always talking to the pole. But no one reaches out to ask for help for him. Sometimes we fail ourselves and each other by normalizing the issues. We can empower ourselves and we can empower our community by speaking up and acknowledging that there are problems in our community.”

Amy Weirich, Shelby County District Attorney General, told the group, “What my office does and what you can do are very much aligned. The problems we see on a daily basis at 201 Poplar [Shelby County Criminal Court] and at juvenile court are not going to be solved by prosecution and arrest. When we have over 8,000 incidents of domestic violence — prosecutable cases — every year; those do not include the thousands of cases that are not prosecutable. That’s a huge problem. That’s not going to be solved by locking people up,” she said. “So what the conversation has to turn to is, what can we as a community do to get the attention of our young people and get them to understand we don’t hit the ones we say ‘I love you’ to,” Weirich stated, adding, “Because far too often, a victim in juvenile court becomes a defendant a few years later at 201 Poplar after they reach the 18th birthday.”

UTHSC Employees Demonstrate Leadership in Toastmasters

Several UTHSC employees are honing their speaking and leadership skills in the Brain Builders Toastmasters Club. Meegan Barrett-Adair and Sotonte Ebenido both won the 2012-2013 Competent Communication Award. Luciana Richer won the Competent Leadership Award and the Advanced Leadership Bronze Award.

The club meets every Tuesday at noon at The Urban Child Institute, 600 Jefferson Ave., on the first floor. Parking is free. For more information, go to http://1530301.toastmastersclubs.org/directions.html.

The role of churches was highlighted in breaking the cycles of truancy and violence among young children, by giving children positive outlets and role models, and encouraging education and achievement. “Our goal is to convene leaders of the faith community with key decision-makers and develop solutions to issues that have been plaguing families for far too long in our community,” said Pastor Dianne Young, project coordinator for the Emotional Fitness Centers of Tennessee. “Churches are located in every community and are ready to be integrated into the process,” she added. “With over 2,000 churches in the region, the faith community has a unique connection with families in this area and we want to leverage that connection to make Memphis and Shelby County a better place.”

Nearly 200 attended the Healing the Broken Village conference Oct. 4. UTHSC partnered with facilitator William M. Young, Sr., to provide a venue and lunch. Social service agency representatives spoke on local teen pregnancy rates, HIV cases, domestic abuse, suicide among young African-Americans and violence.
**Dr. Ugwueke Named COO of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare**

Michael Ugwueke, MPH, DHA, FACHE, an associate professor of general internal medicine at UTHSC, is the executive vice president and chief operating officer (COO) of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (MLH). Dr. Ugwueke was senior vice president of Methodist North and South Hospitals. He transitioned to his new role in January. As COO, he provides strategic and operational leadership for the system’s five adult inpatient hospitals and affiliated companies.

“Working with Michael these last several years, I know his commitment to Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare is rooted in a deep personal connection to our mission,” said Gary S. Shorb, president and chief executive officer of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

“I know his leadership will be positive for the patients and families we serve.”

“I am honored to have been chosen for this leadership role at Methodist,” said Dr. Ugwueke, who added, “It is my goal to continue to focus on the important work we do for the health and well-being of the people we serve. Guiding me will be my passion about patient- and family-centered care, building strong bonds with physicians, ensuring excellent clinical quality and fostering community wellness.”

Dr. Ugwueke has a bachelor’s degree in biology from Shaw University, a master’s of public health from Emory University and a doctor of health administration and leadership degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. For 26 years, he served in planning and operational leadership roles in health care organizations in Atlanta, Sarasota, Fla., Washington, D.C., and the Chicago area. Last year, he was named one of the Top 25 Minority Executives in Healthcare by Modern Healthcare.

**Le Bonheur, UTHSC Partner in Mentoring**

Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center have experienced rapid growth in the number of faculty members in the last two years. A new program has been designed to help these young physicians and researchers thrive in their careers.

“The first few years are a critical time to get the right start and understand what’s expected of you,” said Keith English, MD, associate chair of the Department of Pediatrics. “We have recruited the best, and we have to make sure we’ve given them the tools and opportunities to excel.”

Since the summer of 2011, more than 25 physicians have joined the Department of Pediatrics, most of them junior faculty members. Another 25-30 are expected to be hired in the next three to five years, according to Jon McCullers, MD, chair of the Department of Pediatrics.

English is leading the effort to develop an Office of Faculty Development, which will focus on mentoring, recruitment, new faculty orientation and promotion and tenure.

One aspect of this initiative is facilitated peer mentoring groups that meet monthly. They will be led by an experienced faculty mentor and include up to eight young physicians at a similar career stage from a variety of specialties. The groups will discuss general career advice, networking within the hospital and across the country, promotion and tenure, and balancing personal and professional lives.

“We have high expectations for all of our faculty members. We want to help them find their place within the missions of an academic medical center – patient care, education, research and outreach,” Dr. English added.

These new mentoring initiatives complement the program-specific mentoring that already happens. Dr. English says, by crossing over specialties, this allows new faculty members to learn from others across the hospital.

“Our ultimate goal is a faculty that is dynamic and successful and improving the lives of children,” Dr. English said.

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**2012-2013 United Way Campaign Winners**

According to Elise Moore in Community Affairs, the total raised for the United Way in 2012-13 was $52,774.

- **Orange Gift Bags**
  - Charmayne Akram (Medicine)
  - Toni Baker (Payroll)
  - Vicki Bass (Nursing)
  - Barbara Blakely (Laboratory Animal Care)
  - Robert Brandt (Dentistry)
  - Joe Bragg (Mechanical Services)
  - Tonya Brown (Academic Affairs)
  - Venus Claxton (Academic Affairs)
  - Frances Coleman (Physical Therapy)
  - Ronald Davis (Educational Development)
  - Brenda Deane (Academic Affairs)
  - Dominic Desiderio (Neurology)
  - Rhonda Ferguson (Developmental Disabilities)
  - James Fleming (Ophthalmology)
  - Martin Fletcher (General Stores)
  - Carolyn D. Griffin (HR)
  - Janet Harrison (Dentistry)
  - Glenn Hart (Dentistry)
  - Elizabeth Bowman
  - Pearline Brown
  - Linda Crouch
  - Helen Curry
  - Susan Daniel
  - Gloria Harris
  - Brenda Hill
  - Patricia Hill
  - Gwendolyn Jackson
  - David Johnson
  - Michael Jones
  - Valvarie Jordan
  - Carol Likens
  - Kafait Malik
  - Phillip Minnefield
  - Ruth Mulvany
  - Susan Pfeiffer
  - Toyota Polk
  - Brilliant Robinson
  - Elizabeth Roemer
  - Mark Scarbecz
  - James Simon
  - Gwendoly Stones
  - Carolee Thomas
  - Deborah Williams
  - Valerie Wheeler
  - Laurie Whiteside
  - Audrey Zucker-Levin
Collaborative Environment, Technology Made Memphis Attractive

Kate Van Poppel, MD, came to Memphis for a pediatric neurology residency and stayed for fellowship training. A collaborative research environment and state-of-the-art technology kept her at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) and Le Bonheur Children's Hospital.

“We have all the technology you could look for to do a good, thorough work-up without having to refer patients out,” Dr. Van Poppel said. “As a trainee, I was exposed to technology like magnetoencephalography (MEG) that you don’t see everywhere.”

Now an assistant professor in UTHSC’s Department of Pediatric Neurology, Dr. Van Poppel is training the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric neurologists. She feels the environment is conducive to collaboration in both clinical care and research. Her most recent article, “Mesial Temporal Sclerosis in a Cohort of Children with SCN1A Gene Mutation,” was published in the July 2012 issue of the Journal of Child Neurology. Her studies with chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, Frederick Boop, MD, on resective epilepsy surgery in pediatric patients appeared in Contemporary Neurosurgery.

“We see a lot of patients with very different pathologies from very basic to the most complex,” Dr. Van Poppel said. “This gives students the opportunity to learn about a lot of rare diseases.”

Master’s in Epidemiology Moves Clinical Investigators to Next Level

Are you an MD, a junior faculty member or a research associate with a desire to move your career forward? Do you need expertise in clinical investigation to gain the grant funding that will drive your research? If so, now’s the time to register for UTHSC’s Clinical Investigation Master’s of Science in Epidemiology Program (CIMSE).

Applications are being accepted through April 30, 2013. If you hold a bachelor’s, master’s or professional degree(s) in a qualifying discipline(s), you can apply for Fall 2013 admission. The two-year (four semester) CIMSE program offers flexible coursework both online and face-to-face. With a focus on developing independent clinical researchers by improving skill sets in grant writing, data analysis and study design, CIMSE provides training in biostatistics, epidemiology, research methods and health care economics.

Successful CIMSE graduates include:

- Patricia Flynn, BS, MD, MS (class of 2002), who is now the Director of Clinical Research in Infectious Diseases, Director of Translational Trials Unit, and a faculty member at St. Jude.
- Collin A. Hovinga, PharmD, MS, FCCP (class of 2010), who is the Director of Research Pediatric Surgical Subspecialists at Dell Children’s Medical Center of Central Texas, and Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin’s College of Pharmacy.
- Katie J. Suda, PharmD, MS (class of 2010), who is a faculty member in the UTHSC Department of Clinical Pharmacy. Director of the UTHSC Drug Information Center from October 2006 through August 2011, Dr. Suda is now an instructor in the area of infectious diseases and medical literature evaluation. Her primary research interest has been in clinical outcomes research.

When asked what difference the CIMSE program made in her career, Dr. Suda said, “I learned a lot about epidemiology research and its application to patient care. The program also helped me connect with potential collaborators, which included my classmates and professors. This master’s program gave me a new perspective on research.”

She also noted the program improved her research, offered mentoring support and provided opportunities to submit federal grants. “The program will significantly impact your career, especially by increasing the rigor of your research,” Dr. Suda added.

Current participants in the CIMSE program include Stephanie Savage, MD (class of 2013), who is an assistant professor in UTHSC’s General Surgery unit, and Leonard “Jeff” Harris, Jr., BS, MD (class of 2013), a clinical cardiology fellow.

For more details, visit http://www.uthsc.edu/prevmed/pm/msepiprogram.html or use your smartphone to scan the QR code below.

More Than 40 UTMG Docs Named “Best in America”

More than 40 UT Medical Group physicians were among the most recent Best Doctors in America® list. They are:

- Anesthesiology: John Zanelia, Jr.
- Cardiovascular Disease: Kevin P. Newman, Guy L. Reed
- Dermatology: Robert Skinner
- Endocrinology & Metabolism: Samuel Dagoon-Jack, Thomas A. Hughes
- Family Medicine: Susan F. Nelson
- Infectious Disease: Kerry O. Cleveland, Michael S. Gelfand (Cancer & infections, transplantation infections), Mack A. Land, Shirin Mazumder
- Internal Medicine: Burton Hayes (General & pediatrics), James B. Lewis (Hospital medicine), Natascha Thompson, Catherine Womack
- Neonatology: Ramasubbareddy Dhanireddy (Neonatal/perinatal medicine)
- Nephrology: Colleen Hastings (General & pediatric nephrology)
- Neurology: Mark LeDoux (Movement disorders)
- OB/GYN: Laura Detti (Reproductive endocrinology/infertility), Vanessa Givens, Giancarlo Mari (Maternal fetal medicine), Daniel C. Martin (Reproductive endocrinology/infertility, reproductive surgery), Normam L. Meyer (Maternal fetal medicine), Owen P. Phillips (Genetics)
- Ophthalmology: Claudette J. Shephard (Pediatric & adolescent gynecology)
- Ophthalmology: James C. “Chris” Fleming (Oculoplastic & orbital surgery, trauma), Mary Ellen Hoehn (Pediatric ophthalmology), Natalie C. Kerr (Pediatric ophthalmology), Sarwat Salim (Glaucoma), Matthew Wilson (Ocular oncology)
- Otolaryngology: Sandeep Samant (Oncological surgery)
- Plastic Surgery: William L. Hickerson (General, wound healing & burns), Edward A. Luce (General, breast reconstruction, head & neck surgery), Robert D. Wallace (General, craniofacial surgery, facial aesthetic surgery)
- Psychiatry: James A. Greene (Geriatric psychiatry), Kenneth Mark Sakauye (Geriatric psychiatry, ECT therapy), Robert: Radiology: E. Gold (Diagnostic & interventional radiology)
- Surgery: F. Elizabeth Pritchard, Guy R. Voeller
- Surgical Oncology: Martin D. Fleming
- Vascular Surgery: Michael J. Rohrer (Vascular & endovascular surgery)

UT Medical Group is the private group practice affiliated with the UT Health Science Center College of Medicine faculty. A not-for-profit, non-tax-supported group practice, UTMG is dedicated to quality patient care, medical education, and medical research. For more information, visit www.utmedicalgroup.com.
Agencies as well as caring for victims of violence. Nancy Cabelus, Susan Patton and Joyce Williams earned certification as Advanced Forensic Nurses from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. According to Patton, there are fewer than 10 certified Advanced Forensic Nurses in the world. Forensic nurses participate in the legal system by collecting evidence and providing consultation to law enforcement and medical agencies as well as caring for victims of violence.

Nancy Cabelus is working in Africa to reduce human trafficking. An international consultant on sexual violence in conflict zones, she earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from UTHSC in 2007. She also just joined UTHSC as volunteer faculty in the College of Nursing. Her 30 years as a nurse include 20 years as a Connecticut state trooper, investigating criminal cases and earning numerous citations for successful resolutions. She went on to be a program manager for the U.S. Department of Justice, receiving top secret clearance, and helped to start a forensic nursing program at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. She served as Director-at-Large of the International Association of Forensic Nurses from 2004 to 2008, receiving the Virginia A. Lynch Pioneer Award in Forensic Nursing in 2010.

Susan Patton is a board-certified pediatric nurse practitioner working with victims of child abuse and sexual assault in private practice. She earned a Doctor of Nursing Science degree from UTHSC, joining the College of Nursing faculty in 2001. She currently serves as coordinator of the DNP Forensic Nursing Option and interim director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program. Dr. Patton’s major areas of scholarship and practice are developmental pediatrics and injury/violence prevention. She has received a number of awards, including the UTHSC Excellence in Teaching Award, and has been recognized by the Arkansas General Assembly.

Joyce P. Williams, a forensic nurse examiner for the Child Advocacy Center in Hagerstown, Md., earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from UTHSC in 2007. She became an assistant professor at UTHSC in 2012. Williams was part of the response teams for United Airlines Flight 93 in 2001 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. A clinical instructor at Johns Hopkins from 2008-2011, she has volunteered her expertise to the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine. Her awards include the Dr. Wilbur B. Payne Memorial Award for Excellence in Analysis from the Department of the Army, the Governor’s Citation from the state of Maryland, and the Distinguished Fellow Award from the International Association of Forensic Nurses. For more information on forensic nursing, go to the International Association of Forensic Nurses at [http://www.forensicnurse.org](http://www.forensicnurse.org) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center at [http://www.nursecredentialing.org](http://www.nursecredentialing.org).

**Three UTHSC Nurses Earn Advanced Certification**

Three nurses with UTHSC connections have become part of an elite group. Nancy Cabelus, Susan Patton and Joyce Williams earned certification as Advanced Forensic Nurses from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. According to Patton, there are fewer than 10 certified Advanced Forensic Nurses in the world. Forensic nurses participate in the legal system by collecting evidence and providing consultation to law enforcement and medical agencies as well as caring for victims of violence.

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**UTOHSC to Play Role in Human Brain Project**

On Jan. 28, the European Commission supported this vision, announcing that it has selected the HBP as one of two projects to be funded through the new FET Flagship Program.

Federating more than 80 European and international research institutions, the Human Brain Project is planned to last 10 years. The cost is estimated at 1.19 billion euros (more than $2.5 billion).

The selection of the Human Brain Project as a FET Flagship is the result of more than three years of preparation and a rigorous and severe evaluation by a large panel of independent, high profile scientists, chosen by the European Commission. In the coming months, the partners will negotiate a detailed agreement with the Community for the initial first two-and-a-half-year ramp-up phase (2013-mid 2016). The project will begin work in the closing months of 2013. FET Flagships are ambitious large-scale, science-driven, research initiatives that aim to achieve a visionary goal. The scientific advance should provide a strong and broad basis for future technological innovation and economic exploitation in a variety of areas, as well as novel benefits for society.

The project will also associate some important North American partners. It will be coordinated at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland, by neuroscientist Henry Markram with co-directors Karlheinz Meier of Heidelberg University, Germany, and Richard Frackowiak of Clinique Hospitalière Universitaire Vaudoise (CHUV) and the University of Lausanne (UNIL).

**Otto Wheeley Award Submissions Due by April 30**

The B. Otto and Kathleen Wheeley Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer is given to a University of Tennessee faculty member(s) who excel in the commercialization of university-based research results. The B. Otto and Kathleen Wheeley Foundation provides the award stipend through an endowment fund which was established in 1989. The award is specifically intended to recognize faculty who take a direct and active role in the commercialization process.

Criteria for the award include:

- The technological and/or scientific significance of the invention or creative work being commercialized
- The market success of the product or process
- The degree of active involvement of the faculty member in the commercialization process
- The faculty member’s overall contribution to the university’s missions of teaching, research and service.

Otto Wheeley, a University of Tennessee graduate, was deputy chair of the Koppers Company and President of Koppervoco, a venture capital subsidiary of Koppers in the early 1980s. Eager to promote technological entrepreneurs in Tennessee, he returned to the state and founded Venture First Associations, Inc., after which he formed a close alliance with his alma mater to promote the commercialization of university-developed research.

There will be two awards given in 2013 of $5,000 each. The deadline for submission is April 30. The award will be presented in September 2013.

Nominations should be sent to:

Dick R. Gourley, PharmD
UT Research Foundation
600 Henley St., Suite 211
UT Conference Center
Knoxville, TN 37996-4122
Phone: 865-974-1882
Email: utrf@tennessee.edu

Nominations must include the nominee’s curriculum vitae and a two-page description of their technology transfer achievements. Three letters of reference should be included in the nomination.

The technology transfer description must include: the company (or companies) that have licensed the technology; information on the market to which the product is directed and its success in the market place; the innovative/unique qualities of the product or process and its benefits to society; and the nominee’s active and direct involvement in commercialization process.
Two Pharmacy Students Receive Scholarships

Two students in the College of Pharmacy at the UT Health Science Center are living out the legacy of a UT Martin graduate they never met: Melinda Rhea Garrett. Melinda died in 2006, during her first year in the College of Pharmacy. To honor her memory, students on both campuses began raising funds for a scholarship, which they have fully endowed.

The student pharmacists announced their 2012 scholarship recipients: first-year students Rhys Moore of Germantown, Tenn., ($1,000) and Alexandra Punke of Sevierville, Tenn., ($700).

Moore graduated from Houston High School and earned a BS degree in biochemistry at the University of Arkansas, where he was a member of the marching band. He also earned the highest level of honors, summa cum laude, and became a member of Phi Beta Kappa. While at UTHSC, Moore plans to join the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP).

Punke graduated as a valedictorian of Sevier County High School’s 2009 class. She was accepted into pharmacy school after completing three years of prerequisites at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, receiving the CRC Press General Chemistry Award at Chemistry Honors Day. She is a member of APhA-ASP and looks forward to uniting with fellow students who share the same passion for counseling people about their medications.

The scholarship is named for Melinda Rhea Garrett, daughter of Dale and Fay Garrett of McKenzie, Tenn., and a 2001 graduate of McKenzie High School. Melinda’s Doctor of Pharmacy degree was awarded posthumously in 2009.

“Melinda could light up a room with her smile,” recalls Stephanie Phelps, associate dean, Academic Affairs.

To contribute to the Melinda Rhea Garrett scholarship fund, contact Nell Blair, development director at 901-448-8202 or by email at NellBlair@uthsc.edu.

Race for the Summit March 23

The Race for the Summit will be Saturday, March 23 at 9 a.m., starting at the UTHSC College of Pharmacy and finishing at Forrest Park. The race will benefit the Pat Summit Foundation and UTHSC chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP).

The mission of the Pat Summit Foundation is to make grants to non-profit organizations which provide:

- Education and awareness of Alzheimer’s, its onset and treatment
- Support services to patients, their families and caregivers
- Research to treat, prevent, cure, and ultimately eradicate this disease.

In addition, a portion – 25 percent – of the proceeds will go towards the UTHSC College of Pharmacy’s APhA-ASP chapter. These funds will be used to help offset the costs associated with the provision of free patient care services to the Memphis and Knoxville communities and other important chapter initiatives.

The chapter’s mission is to provide professional development and leadership opportunities for student pharmacists, raise awareness about and advocate for the role of the pharmacist in the health care system, and provide free health services and education to the citizens of Tennessee.

Pharmacy Students on Race for the Summit

Susan Dickey, PharmD candidate

“Proud of my future career in pharmacy, my grandmother KayKay has for years asked me, ‘When are you going to find the cure for Alzheimer’s?’

‘KayKay had watched her grandmother succumb to the disease when she was a little girl and had witnessed her mother unable to recognize her own family as she too progressed through the stages of Alzheimer’s.

‘Today KayKay herself has Alzheimer’s. While I cannot promise to find a cure myself, I can promise KayKay that I will support Alzheimer’s research and will work to break this family tradition before it reaches the next generation. Please help me fulfill my promise by supporting Race for the Summit.’

Jennifer Reed, PharmD candidate 2015

“Race for the Summit was inspired by my grandfather, the late William Roy Reed of Shelbyville, Tenn., who battled Alzheimer’s for 13 years. The day he passed away, my grandmother was wearing a shirt that said, ‘The End of Alzheimer’s Starts With Me.’ It was in that moment I vowed to myself that I would do everything in my ability to make sure that phrase comes true.

“I am so blessed to be a part of APhA-ASP, an organization that has not only inspired me, but also has provided me with all of the resources to help me achieve this goal. In addition, I have the privilege to advocate for a person whom my grandfather greatly admired: Pat Summit. I hope that we can help the Pat Summit Foundation prevent other families from hearing the diagnosis that our families did. Thank you, from my family and myself, for your support of Race for the Summit.”

Amy Sparkman, PharmD candidate 2015

“One of life’s greatest treasures is our memory. How often do you hear a song that instantly takes you back to another time and another place? So much of who we are comes from remembering where we’ve been and what we’ve experienced. What if that was taken away from you? Please support the Race for the Summit and help us fight Alzheimer’s. This will be a memory you won’t want to forget.”

“For more information, contact: Jennifer Reed 931-703-4938 jreed60@uthsc.edu Whitney Elliott 901-237-1268 wvanclev@uthsc.edu Rebecca Chhim, PharmD 901-606-6805 rchhim@uthsc.edu.
Student Spotlight: Joanna Buxkemper

Paper and pencil? Check.
Homework? Check.
Cheerleading uniform? Check.

If that last question threw you off, you're not alone. When you're in school, the typical routine is school, extracurricular activities and homework, right? Not when you reside on the family farm. Joanna Buxkemper, a second-year pharmacy student on UTHSC's Knoxville campus and subject of this month's Student Spotlight, knows this lifestyle all too well. She's lived it.

Buxkemper is a native of Lenoir City, Tenn., located 30 minutes outside of Knoxville. She is the daughter of a project engineer and a recently retired realtor, and has a sister who is 10 years her senior. Because she grew up on a farm, it is no surprise that Buxkemper developed an undying love for animals and their well-being at an early age.

"I always knew I wanted to do something involving animals," she says. "Our farm had a little bit of everything – horses, sheep, pigs. There were even a few dogs and cats running around. I would go to school, come home and tend to the animals, taking care of everything from shearing to occasional vaccinations."

During her middle and high school years, Buxkemper joined her local 4-H, an organization that promotes community development through agriculture. By doing this, she was able to educate herself further on the field of agriculture and all that it entails. It was also during her tenure in the organization that she began to entertain the idea of entering the field of veterinary pharmacy.

"I have an equal love for animals, pharmacy and agriculture. I don't think everyone realizes how huge of an impact agriculture has on everyday life," Buxkemper said. "There is a lot of research that goes into optimizing everything in order to provide food for this country as well as other countries. I would like to contribute to that."

After completing high school, Buxkemper enrolled in the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, to study Food Science and Technology at the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. She explained that she chose the major because it provided her with a field that related agriculture to the biology and chemistry pharmacy prerequisite courses. She excelled, earning the prestigious Gordon W. and Agnes P. Cobb Scholarship.

This is an award for students from Blount, Knox or Loudon counties who are pursuing a degree in the health sciences. She also earned the Arch E. McClanahan Agricultural Scholarship. The two scholarships are evidence of her twin interests – health sciences and agriculture.

Her activities, however, went beyond academia. Named 2010 Outstanding Junior and 2011 Outstanding Senior by the Department of Food Science and Technology at UTK, Buxkemper was involved in Collegiate 4-H and Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority where she served as the scholarship chair. She was also a member of the Institute of Food Technologists, participated in the department's College Bowl team and played rugby with the UT Women's Rugby Football Club. She even managed to gain valuable experience in her field of choice, holding jobs as a pharmacy technician and undergraduate research assistant while still in college.

Once her undergraduate degree was completed, Buxkemper set out in search of a place to further her studies. However, she wanted to be sure that she could continue in her field of choice. Eventually, Buxkemper decided on UTHSC. "It was an easy choice for me," she said. "UTHSC is a high-ranking, well-respected educational institution. The location was great as well. Not being too far away from my family was a definite plus."

In Knoxville, Buxkemper definitely keeps busy. She serves as a UT College of Pharmacy (UTCOP) Student Ambassador, which she describes as her biggest accomplishment so far, through a program of specialized pharmaceutical care to animals. She hopes this advanced training process by communicating with candidates before and after their admission interviews, and hosting them on admission interview days. There is nothing, she said, like interacting with future students. She even offered some advice to prospective students. "Continue to work hard," she said. "There will be days where you think you won't be able to see the pay off, but if you maintain a hard-work ethic, it will all come to fruition."

Buxkemper's contributions are truly being felt both on and off campus. Through the APHA-ASP CPR Committee, she has been able to become a CPR instructor and certify others, from UTHSC faculty and students to pre-school teachers.

Stephanie Weathers, MS, coordinator of Student Services, College of Pharmacy, Knoxville campus, had high praise for Buxkemper. "We're so blessed to be able to work with students like Joanna Buxkemper at the UT College of Pharmacy," she said. "She personifies hard work and dedication and learned early on what it takes to succeed."

Currently, Buxkemper is employed as a pharmacy intern at Walgreen's. After graduation, Joanna aspires to attend one of the two clinical veterinary pharmacy residencies currently available in the United States. She hopes this advanced training will give her the tools necessary to provide specialized pharmaceutical care to animals. With the success she has already attained, Buxkemper's future looks to be nothing short of great and we are eager to see the outcome.

"She personifies hard work and dedication and learned early on what it takes to succeed."
— Stephanie Weathers, MS, Student Services Coordinator, College of Pharmacy, Knoxville

"There will be days where you think you won't be able to see the pay off, but if you maintain a hard-work ethic, it will all come to fruition."
— Joanna Buxkemper