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Same Excellence in Education
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**Your Advocacy Is Critical**

The University of Tennessee needs YOU! Join UT Advocacy, the growing grassroots network that engages alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends to serve as advocates for the University of Tennessee. Advocates believe in UT’s value to all Tennesseans and share that message with elected officials. YOUR voice can impact Tennessee’s future!

Membership is free and it only takes a few minutes to sign up. Go to [http://advocacy.tennessee.edu](http://advocacy.tennessee.edu) and register today! We will provide you with the latest facts, figures, and breaking news so you can be informed and effective.

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**Get Educated. Get Connected. Speak out for UT!**
It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to send an update to our alumni and supporters, as well as to the UTHSC community. This year has been very successful for our students, faculty and staff. Student enrollment is strong and our excellent faculty has been productive in teaching, service, clinical practice and scholarship. This past year has been an exciting time for new members joining the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS). Laura Genet, Dr. Jennifer Hausladen, Dr. Jong Ho Won and Jillian McCarthy joined the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology; Thomas “Wes” Williamson joined the Department of Clinical Laboratory Studies; Colette Stewart joined the Department of Dental Hygiene; Dr. Sajeesh Kumar joined the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management; Ellen Robertson joined the Department of Occupational Therapy; Roberta Gatlin joined the Department of Physical Therapy, and Catherine Gemmiti and Johnna Tanner joined the Department of Physician Assistant Studies. CAHS proudly graduated 201 students in May 2012, the largest number of graduates among UTHSC’s six colleges.

New programs have also been established to keep up with the current trends in health care education. In May, we established the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, with faculty currently creating curriculum and clinical sites for accreditation. The Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences is launching a new online program for medical technologists who are interested in acquiring a bachelor’s degree in medical technology. In July, the Department of Physical Therapy, in partnership with the Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation, began offering a physical therapy residency in orthopedics, the very first in the state.

CAHS continues to reach out to our alumni and supporters to solicit donations for student scholarships and program support. Among the donations that were received this year, was the generous endowment from Gary and Ruth Glisson to establish the Dr. Nancy Williams Endowed Scholarship in Dental Hygiene. The Assisi Foundation donated a video game to teach students oral health lessons in a fun and engaging manner. The gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Glisson and the Assisi Foundation are wonderful examples of the promise that our alumni and the community see in the College of Allied Health Sciences. The college is additionally grateful to the other organizations, like The Josephine Circle, and individuals who contributed to student scholarships this year.

Research received national recognition this year through awards and invitations for presentations. Dr. Deborah von Hapsburg received a three-year grant from the National Institutes of Health for the study “Canonical Syllable Production and Perception in Infants with Hearing Loss.” Additionally, many other faculty members, as well as graduate students, had research articles published and made presentations at state and national conferences.

This past year has been a very productive year for the College of Allied Health Sciences, and everyone is looking forward to another successful year! Thank you for your continued support.

Noma Bennett Anderson, PhD
Dean, UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences
As a new fiscal year unfolds, we are pleased to highlight the overall accomplishments of our institution and the specific advances within the College of Allied Health Sciences in recent months. Under Dean Anderson’s direction, the college is currently taking steps to develop a Physician Assistant (PA) Studies Program. Once approved by all required accrediting bodies, the program will begin in 2014. For information on Catherine Gemmiti, the founding chair and PA program director, see page 6. We know you will also enjoy reading about our Dental Hygiene 100 percent pass rate on page 7.

Our institution is forging ahead into our second century with an expanding presence in Nashville and Middle Tennessee through a partnership with Saint Thomas Health. We’ve also taken major strides toward what will be the transformation of our main campus in Memphis through the groundbreaking for our Translational Science Research Building. With the support of the Governor and legislature, we have also received requisite financial resources to plan for and demolish outdated structures, replacing them with state-of-the-art research, education and clinical facilities.

More than $24 million in state financing has been approved to construct our institution’s first building dedicated to multidisciplinary simulation. Our physicians, dentists, nurses, pharmacists and other health care students are already enhancing their training through interprofessional simulated medical encounters in a small lab. With an entire building designated as a Simulation Center, these real-world exercises will have greater frequency, intensity and impact, requiring students to collaborate, build trust, and rely on each other’s knowledge and expertise. Health care is a team sport, and we must train professionals who synchronize and optimize their efforts for our patients’ benefit.

It is my pleasure to also announce that accomplished new deans have joined our institution since my last correspondence. Dr. Laura Talbot has been selected as dean for the College of Nursing. Dr. Donald B. Thomason has accepted the half-time appointment as dean of the College of Graduate Health Sciences. In April, our organization also welcomed Dr. Randy L. Farmer as our new vice chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs. Dr. Marie Chisholm-Burns was selected as the next permanent dean for the UT College of Pharmacy.

As we glance back to last fall, I know those who participated in our Centennial Gala on September 17, 2011, felt it was a truly remarkable and memorable evening. Many thanks to all of the faculty, students, staff, alumni, donors and friends of UTHSC who enthusiastically supported our celebration. For a glimpse of the event, use the scanning software on your smart phone to capture the QR code at the end of this letter. Or, type this link into your browser: http://www.uthsc.edu/100/.

Strategic alignments with partners, focused commitment to our mission, and support from alumni and friends like you are critical elements in our ability to move forward to even greater achievements. We look forward to working with you as we all build for the future.

Steve J. Schwab, MD
Chancellor, The UT Health Science Center
**Physician Assistant Studies Program Launches**

The UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences has launched the first physician assistant training program available at a public university in the state of Tennessee. The Department of Physician Assistant (PA) Studies will begin enrollment on the UTHSC main campus in Memphis in January 2014. The department will enroll a maximum of 25 students in its inaugural class.

In May, Catherine Gemmiti was named founding chair and program director for the Department of PA Studies. She brings extensive experience in PA education to UTHSC, most recently as PA clinical coordinator for Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville.

With a bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies from the University of the State of New York, Gemmiti earned her Physician Assistant Diploma from Dartmouth Medex New England and received a Master of Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Nebraska. She has administered start-up planning, branding and development of new programs. Her experience also includes five years of service as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve, Medical Specialist Corps.

“Ms. Gemmiti has demonstrated leadership in teaching, research, service and clinical care during her career in PA education,” noted Noma Anderson, PhD, dean of the UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences. “That wealth of experience will be of tremendous benefit as we move our PA program forward.”

Joining Gemmiti in this new endeavor is Johnna Tanner, who will serve as PA Studies academic coordinator.

PA training at UTHSC is designed as a two-year program. Upon successful completion of all requirements, students will graduate with a diploma and will be qualified and well prepared for employment in physicians’ offices, hospitals and other health care settings.

For more information about a career as a physician assistant, visit the college’s Web site at: www.uthsc.edu/allied or contact Justin R. Casey, CAHS, coordinator of administration at (901) 448-1654.

**Dental Hygiene Alumna Thanks Professor with Endowment**

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

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

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

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

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

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center offers a number of vehicles through which you can make a gift. Please call (901) 448-5516 or e-mail giving@uthsc.edu.
UTHSC, Baptist Launch PT Residency

In July, UTHSC and Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation (BMHCC) announced a new Orthopedic Physical Therapy Clinical Residency, the first of its kind in the state. New graduate Maura Bailey, DPT, was named the first resident of the program.

“This partnership allows BMHCC to advance its mission of providing quality patient care through education, and ensures that the UTHSC Department of Physical Therapy remains a leader in providing cutting-edge physical therapy education,” stated Carol Likens, PT, PhD, MBA, associate professor and chairman of the Department of Physical Therapy.

“To be the first in the region to fill this residency, and with UTHSC, it just feels like a perfect fit,” said Dr. Bailey.

Physical therapy clinical residency programs provide an avenue for currently practicing physical therapists to advance their skills and knowledge to become specialists in specific areas of physical therapy practice, such as orthopedics, pediatrics, and sports physical therapy. By training physical therapists in these settings, medical doctors will be able to spend more time helping higher needs patients.

More than 50 people from the new partnership participated in the exciting day, including Chancellor Steve J. Schwab, MD, Noma Anderson, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences, and Kevin Dorsey, DPT, UTHSC lecturer on staff at BMHCC. He is also Dr. Bailey’s mentor.

Dental Hygiene Celebrates 100% Pass Rate

Thirty students in the Department of Dental Hygiene achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam. This is the third time the department has achieved this in the past five years – the others in 2009 and 2010. Many of the graduating students are seeking employment in Tennessee, and several are looking to pursue their education further.

Student Government Recognizes Brooks, Stedke

CAHS Class President Pamela Matthews presented the 2012 Student Government Association Executive Council Excellence in Teaching Awards to Keisha Brooks, MS, CT, instructor in the Department of Clinical Lab Sciences (left photo). Schelli Stedke, RDH, BS, MDH, also received the award for her work in the Department of Dental Hygiene (right photo).
If you talk to physical therapy students about their clinical internships, one site that is consistently rated high by former UTHSC interns is Rehab etc., Inc. This is largely due to the philosophy and vision of one of the owners, Jim Hambrick, PT. Hambrick graduated from the UTHSC in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy. After five years as an employee in a hospital and outpatient clinic setting, Hambrick opened his own clinic with business partner, Phyllis Knose. Since 1993, Rehab etc., has been a fixture in the East Memphis community.

When Rehab etc., opened, there were not many independent companies in Memphis providing physical therapy services because the Tennessee Physical Therapy Practice Act required a physician’s referral in order to see a physical therapist. In 1995, Hambrick hired two well-known and experienced clinicians, Anne Stewart, PT, and Richard Bryant, PT, OCS.

“In addition to seeing patients in my clinic, we provided contract PT, OT and SLP services to clients in the Memphis area. When beginning a business like this, fluctuations in patient volume are the biggest challenge,” stated Hambrick.

He credits his colleagues with giving him the confidence to build his business and for serving as role models in the profession. Today, Rehab etc., operates two freestanding outpatient clinics and provides therapy services for seven physician offices. Hambrick employs approximately 20 physical therapists, the vast majority being UTHSC graduates.

When he was asked what he liked most about being the owner of his own clinic, Hambrick responded, “The opportunity to practice autonomously outside of a large corporate bureaucracy. Our clinical decisions are driven by our evaluations, education, experience and the progress of the patient. I have never felt pressured to consider patient volume.”

Knose concurred stating, “When Jim and I started Rehab etc., he had a vision for the type and level of treatment he wanted for his patients. For the past 18 years he has never waivered from that vision. He has the highest level of commitment to both his patients and employees. His consistent passion for learning and teaching has been instrumental in our success as a highly revered company by both patients and physicians.”

Hambrick’s clinical interests have led him into the area of myofascial pain management, and he has recently completed a course in the technique of dry needling. This technique uses solid filament needles introduced into the muscle to inactivate trigger points that contribute to myofascial pain and movement impairments. Hambrick believes in the value of continuing education for his staff and encourages an eclectic approach to the treatment of patients. Although Hambrick primarily sees patients with orthopedic or musculoskeletal problems, he credits his experience at UTHSC for providing him with a broad-based education and the ability to treat patients with a variety of ailments. “My non-orthopedic courses at UTHSC prepared me to see patients through a greater lens – to see the whole person,” stated Hambrick.

Hambrick is not only recognized for his business success but for the service he has provided to UTHSC and the community. He has been a clinical instructor in the Department of Physical Therapy since 1989. He has also served on the admissions committee for the Department of Physical Therapy for the past 20 years.

Mitzi Zeno, MS, BS, NCS, chair of the admissions committee stated, “Despite the fact that Jim had his own practice with patients to see, he was always present for any work the committee needed to get done. Jim was very
conscientious in helping to select the students and made sure they were all treated fairly and equally.”

Hambrick stated that he really enjoys helping students make the transition from their didactic coursework to the realities of the clinic.

Former student and intern, Kim Harris said, “When I began my student internship with Jim Hambrick, I was terrified. I did not think I would make it through the week, much less the whole internship. By Friday, I learned more in one week than I thought I would for the entire internship, not only about PT treatment, but also about myself. Having a mentor like Jim has truly helped me get started in my career as a physical therapist. I know he will always be there when I need him and he will push me to reach the potential he knows I have.”

Physical therapy education has certainly changed since Hambrick graduated. Entry-level PT students now graduate with a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. The overall length of the program has progressed from 15 months in the early 1980s to just less than three years. “PT students today spend more time in clinical internships prior to graduation than we did back in 1987. They are more prepared to be independent thinkers at the end of their education,” said Hambrick.

The staff at Rehab etc., has mentored a generation of therapists in the Memphis-area through their participation in the UTHSC PT student clinical internship program. More than 90 percent of his staff are UTHSC graduates that he hired after they completed an internship at his facility.

Hambrick’s community service is not limited to Memphis. Since 2004, he has been involved with a medical mission at the Village of Hope in the West African country of Ghana. Village of Hope provides housing, clinics and schools to more than 1,000 children from every region of Ghana.

“Providing PT in this underserved area challenges my clinical reasoning skills,” stated Hambrick. “The process has to be simple and efficient since there are language and time barriers. There are no follow-up visits; I have one shot to help the person standing in front of me.”

Hambrick took two UTHSC PT students with him to Ghana in 2010. One of those students, Alisha Hassell stated, “Jim taught me what compassion looks like. His commitment to Ghana extends beyond his trips. He maintains his relationships with his African friends throughout the year and has coordinated medical trips to the U.S. for Ghanaians who cannot secure proper treatment abroad.”

“UTHSC’s PT program grounded me,” stated Hambrick. “It gave me the foundation to grow into the profession.”

Jim Hambrick is a great example of a UTHSC graduate who practices life-long learning and demonstrates his passion for the profession by mentoring students and new graduates and serving the community, both locally and in the world at large.

2011 Physical Therapy alumni Alisha Hassell and Ross Terry join Jim Hambrick in Ghana to bring hope and care to the local villages.
Patient care has been our first concern at UT Medical Group, Inc. for more than 35 years. As the clinical practice for the UT Health Science Center College of Medicine, UTMG provides advanced, quality care for the Mid-South region at over 35 locations. Many of our physicians have been named among the best in their fields by Best Doctors®, America’s Top Doctors®, and other organizations.

On The Cutting Edge
When you read about a new or advanced treatment at a Memphis hospital, a UT Medical Group doctor is often performing it. UTMG physicians pioneered the development of many new therapies in the Mid-South, including minimally invasive surgery and organ transplantation. They also played a major role in the development and successful outcomes of programs such as the burn center, the neonatal and high-risk birth maternity centers and other unique services provided at The Regional Medical Center (The MED) and Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital.

Patient-Centered Medical Care
Good health is a partnership between the patient and the physician. That’s why UT Medical Group recently developed Patient-Centered Medical Home programs at the Germantown multispecialty office and downtown at Harbor of Health, located in Harbor Town. Both are recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and designed for patients with certain chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma, hypertension or heart disease. The Patient-Centered Medical Home enhances coordinated care and strong physician-patient communication.

Primary and Specialty Care
UT Medical Group offers services in most medical and surgical specialties, including but not limited to: cardiology, endocrinology, head and neck surgery, ophthalmology, family medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, neonatology, nephrology, psychiatry, pulmonology, radiology, internal medicine, as well as general, minimally invasive, plastic, transplant, vascular and oncology surgery.

Medical Research
UTMG’s affiliation with the UT Health Science Center provides many opportunities for research into new medical treatments and procedures. Our physicians’ recent achievements include developing a new vaccine for Group A streptococcus, creating a computer-based imaging program to screen for diabetic retinopathy in the primary care practitioner’s office, and testing improved treatment methods for traumatic brain injury.

Call 901-866-UTMG to make an appointment.
Safeco Insurance Gives $10,000 to CHS Program

On January 9, Safeco Insurance donated $10,000 to help the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology (ASP) Child Hearing Services Program (located at the Knoxville campus) to continue its mission of treating hearing-impaired children.

Child Hearing Services (CHS) provides treatment for hearing-impaired infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-aged children and their families. Special emphasis is placed on early intervention plus family education and counseling.

“CHS provides wonderful treatment and education to many hearing-impaired children and their parents,” said Noma Anderson, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences. “This donation from Safeco Insurance allows CHS to expand the breadth and depth of what they’ll be able to provide.”

In business since 1923 and based in Seattle, Wash., Safeco sells insurance to drivers and homeowners through a network of independent agents and brokers in eight regions throughout the United States. The company sent the donation in honor of 6-month-old Emerson Grace Doty, the granddaughter of one of its employees and a participant in the Child Hearing Services Program.

Currently, CHS provides services for more than 85 children on a weekly basis with more than half of those enrolled having a cochlear implant. The children range in age from birth to 21 years of age with most children being between birth and 10 years of age.

Dr. Won Joins ASP Faculty

Jong Ho Won, PhD, joined the faculty in August. A 2010 PhD recipient, Dr. Won studied at the University of Washington under the mentorship of Jay Rubinstein, PhD, in the area of cochlear implants. He remained at UW in a postdoctoral position prior to starting at UTHSC. Dr. Won has been active in the field with 13 published articles, and five manuscripts in review. He has worked as a co-author or principal investigator on five grants, and given 42 presentations on topics to a variety of audiences. The faculty members welcome Dr. Won as a colleague.

ASPs: Focus On Research

Ellen Hamby, PhD, CCC-SLP, Sue Hume, PhD CCC-SLP, and Carrie Mills, PhD, CCC-SLP, presented at the Georgia Speech and Hearing Association and the North Carolina Speech-Language and Hearing Association annual conventions this spring. The topics were “Patients with Concomitant Voice and Swallowing Disorders” and “FEE Versus MSB-When To Use Which.”

In April, ASP hosted the 18th Annual Sol Adler Conference, which was attended by 200 professionals representing a variety of disciplines from speech-language pathology to physical therapy to athletic training. This year’s topic was “Brain Injury: Evidence-based Practice in Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment for Children, Adolescents and Young Adults.” Speakers for the two-day event were Lyn Turkstra, PhD, professor of speech pathology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Michael Collins, PhD, director of the Sports Medicine Concussion Program at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Philadelphia.
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In August, Kathleen Kenwright, MS, became chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (CLS). She has been a member of the CLS faculty since 2006, serving as an associate professor. In 2011, Kenwright also took on the role of director in the medical technology program; a position she will keep in her new role as chair.

Kenwright’s expertise in the field includes certifications in medical technology, immunology, and molecular pathology. She serves on the Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board and has served as diagnostics molecular educator on the Review Committee for Accredited Programs with the National Accrediting Agency Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Kenwright replaces Barbara Benstein, PhD, in the position, as Dr. Benstein transitions into a full-time role as assistant dean of Academic and Faculty Affairs.

New Track: MLT to MLS

The Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences has added a track that provides a pathway for students who have earned an Associate of Science in Medical Laboratory Technology to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Laboratory Science. This career-ladder program allows medical laboratory technicians to complete their bachelor of science degree online, while maintaining their employment in a medical laboratory.

Classes for this new track began in August. For more information, e-mail us at cls@uthsc.edu, or go to the Web site: http://www.uthsc.edu/allied/mt/MLTtoMLS.php.

Get Active with CLS!

If you are a medical technologist interested in participating at recruitment events, in your area please e-mail cls@uthsc.edu.
Dr. Holder-Ballard Named Chair

In February, Cassandra Holder-Ballard, RDH, MPA, EdD, was selected as chair of the Department of Dental Hygiene. Dr. Holder-Ballard is an associate professor in the department and has been interim chair since July 2011.

Dr. Holder-Ballard has demonstrated leadership in teaching, research, service and clinical care during her tenure as interim chair. Some of her accomplishments include: the revitalization of the Urban Smiles program, providing oral care to the children of Memphis City Schools; managing and leading the dental hygiene faculty and students; and participating on numerous university committees and task forces.

Dr. Holder-Ballard earned an Associate of Science in dental hygiene and a Bachelor of Science in dental hygiene education from Tennessee State University. She holds a Master of Public Administration from Memphis State University and a Doctorate of Education degree in educational leadership adult and higher education from the University of Memphis. Her research has been published in several journals including the Journal of Dental Hygiene, Journal of Periodontology, and Journal of the Tennessee Dental Association.

2013 Dental Hygiene Update
March 9

Hilton Hotel
939 Ridge Lake Boulevard
Memphis, TN 38120

Topic: What’s Hot in Periodontology?

Presenter: Rebecca Wilder, MS, Chair of Dental Hygiene at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hil.

Individuals interested in attending the course, which is an affiliated program of the Mid-South Dental Congress, may register by contacting the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry, Department of Continuing Dental Education at (901) 448-5386. Additionally, look for the 2013 Mid-South Dental Congress brochure that will be mailed to dental offices in the region.

Get More Information and Register at
http://www.uthsc.edu/midsouthdentalcongress/

Graduation and Awards

Dental Hygiene graduates were presented awards by Cassandra Holder-Ballard, EdD, at convocation.

Faculty Award Recipient
Jacquelin Snider

Clinical Achievement Award Recipient
William Hartzell

Outstanding MDH Student Award Recipient
Rachel Ennis
Students and Alumni Stay Active in Dental Hygiene Education

From left to right: Charity Dilgard, Dana Grooms, Chairman Dr. Cassandra Holder-Ballard and Jennifer McCullough receive awards at the 2012 Dental Hygiene Update.

From left to right: Alumna Phyllis Hutcherson Parrott (DH ‘78), Nancy Johnson Williams (DH ‘80), and Donna Roberts Culley (DH ‘69), attended the 2012 American Dental Hygiene Association annual meeting in Phoenix, Ariz.
Dr. Kumar Joins HIIM Faculty

Sajeesh Kumar, PhD, is the newest faculty member in the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management. A world traveler, he earned a baccalaureate degree in Optometry from the Medical Research Foundation in Channai, India, a Master of Science in medical informatics from Erasmus University in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, and a doctorate from the University of Western Australia in Perth. His area of specialty is telemedicine.

Prior to coming to UTHSC, Dr. Kumar was an assistant professor in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania. He is the author of a number of books including *Telehabilitation, Telenursing, Telepathology, Teleradiology, Telesurgery, and Teleophthalmology*. In addition, Dr. Kumar has authored numerous book chapters and articles in refereed journals.

Insco Selected Outstanding Student

April Insco, RHIA, CCS, was named UTHSC Outstanding Student for 2011. Insco graduated in May 2011 from UTHSC with a Bachelor of Science degree in health informatics and information management. Insco worked full time while she successfully completed the HIIM curriculum. Prior to coming to UTHSC, Insco graduated from Roane State Community College, in Harriman, Tenn., where she earned both her RHIA and CCS credentials. There, she was selected as the 2005 Student of the Year and received scholarships from both the Knoxville HIMA and the AHIMA Foundation.

Insco successfully completed the RHIA exam during her last semester at UTHSC earning her RHIA credential. Currently, Insco is the HIM director and HIPAA privacy officer for Jamestown Regional Medical Center in Tennessee, a position she has held since 2007.

Alumni Are Leaders in HIIM Professional Organizations

UTHSC alumni are actively involved in their national, state and local professional associations. Amanda King (BSHIM ’04, MHIIM ’09) is chair of the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM). CCHIIM is the organization that is responsible for the HIM credentialing examinations, such as the registered health information administrator (RHIA) examination, as well as the maintenance of certification programs required of all credentialed HIM professionals.

Many alumni have made their mark with the Memphis Health Information Management Association (MHIMA). Chevella Oliver (HIIM ’04) is the current president of MHIMA and works at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. As president of MHIMA, Oliver also serves on the Tennessee Health Information Management (THIMA) Board of Directors. Laritha Boone (HIIM ’09) is president-elect and Jaycie Music Hart (HIIM ’07) is past president. Boone is the enterprise-wide master patient index coordinator for Methodist-Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis. Hart is the director of HIM at Baptist Hospital Collierville. Lia Whitmire (HIIM ’09) is the treasurer and Kathy Carlisle Tong (HIIM ’90) is the secretary of MHIMA. Both are employed by Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

At the state level, Stacy Jowers Dorris (HIIM ’99) is president of THIMA. Dorris works for QSource, which assists health care organizations in Tennessee to improve the quality of care. Marcia Gray Sharp, EdD (HIIM ’93), was elected as a delegate for THIMA. In this position she will serve as a representative at the American Health Information Management Association House of Delegates as well as serving on the THIMA Board of Directors. Dr. Sharp is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Informatics and Information Management at UTHSC.

Cindy Nixon (HIIM ’87) is president of the Mid-East Health Information Management Association. As president of this local association, Nixon also serves on the THIMA Board of Directors. Nixon is director of the health information management department at Cookeville Regional Medical Center in Cookeville, Tenn.
Graduation and Awards

Ann Nolen, PsyD, OTR, presented the Occupational Therapy awards for excellence at the graduation ceremony.

First Year Ever
Two Recipients for Leadership Award
Laura Barnhill and Haley Pukanes

Service Award Recipient
Hugh Forsythe

MOT Achievement Award Recipient
Hollie Mizzi

Alumna Wears Many Hats - Wife, Mother, Captain, Doctor

Sarah Kingery Creal, DSc (OT’01) has been busy since leaving UTHSC. She is a captain in the U.S. Army, stationed in Ft. Hood, Texas, with her husband, a naval officer. The couple has two children. As an active duty occupational therapist, Dr. Creal works with individuals with hand injuries including those in the upper extremity and finger amputations. She also works with active duty soldiers returning from Afghanistan or Iraq with brain or psychological problems.

“Behavioral health services are sorely needed,” stated Dr. Creal, “so, we are working to fight the stigma against seeking treatment in the military population.” Dr. Creal received her DSc from Baylor University December 2011.

Loss of Tennessee Occupational Therapy Leader Craig Edwards

The Department of Occupational Therapy faculty, staff, students and alumni are sad to share the loss of alumnus Craig Steven Francis Edwards, BA, OTR/L (1959-2012). A native Memphian, he graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1977 from Tech High School, attended Memphis State University, and graduated with honors from UTHSC with a degree in Occupational Therapy in 1995.

As an employee with the Veterans Administration Hospital for twelve years, he served veterans recovering from mental illness. He was deeply committed to the community, serving as president of Integrity Memphis for a number of years. He also served as president and vice president of the Tennessee Occupational Therapy Association as well as a lecturer and fieldwork supervisor for many OT students. His concern for excellence in education was seen by both the faculty and his students, and has served as an inspiration to others.
**Likens Honored for Contributions to PT**

In April, Carol Likens, PT, PhD, MBA, chair of the Department of Physical Therapy, was inducted into the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association Hall of Fame at the fall meeting held in Nashville. This was the second major award that Dr. Likens was honored with this past year. She was also recognized by the American Physical Therapy Association with the Lucy Blair Service Award to acknowledge and honor her exceptional service to the organization. She accepted the award at the annual meeting held in Tampa, Fla.

**Gatlin Joins PT Faculty**

In January, Roberta “Bertie” Gatlin, PT, PCS, joined the PT faculty as an assistant professor. She is a 1989 alumna of UTHSC and has been working as a Board Certified Pediatric Specialist since 2001. Before joining the faculty, she was a manager of Methodist Le Bonheur Pediatrics in Germantown, Tenn. She is the current president of the Memphis District of the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association.

More than 50, third-year students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program presented research posters in the Madison Plaza. Posters were reviewed and students were questioned by a panel of judges. Several of the projects were accepted for presentation at a national meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association.

**Graduation and Awards**

Carol Likens, PhD, presented the awards of merit to physical therapy graduates at the commencement ceremony.

- **Outstanding Student Award Recipients**
  - Sonia Khiantani and Hannah Kesler

- **Faculty Award Recipient**
  - Nancy Spicer

- **Margaret and Perry Ayers Scholarship Recipient**
  - Maura Bailey
1970s

Dianne Sandrock Bornia (BS HIIM ’75) lives in Adelaide, Australia, where she works with AllScripts in implementing an EHR system for the state health system.

Debra Vescovo Byrd (BS HIIM ’76) is working in the cancer registry at Baptist Hospital DeSoto in Southaven, Miss.

1980s

Colonious Davis (BS HIIM ’89) retired in September 2011 from the HIM Department at the Regional Medical Center at Memphis after 35 years. He is now teaching in the HIT program for National College of Business and Technology in Bartlett, Tenn.

Rebecca Dinwiddie DeRousse (BS HIIM ’80) works at Baptist Rehabilitation Hospital in Memphis. She was recently elected to the Board of Trustees for the Mid-South Chapter of the National MS Society.

1980s

Vickie Bills Ferguson (BS HIIM ’82) is the vice president of Access and Health Information Management for Catholic Health Partners. Her daughter Katie will be starting the entry-level MHIIM program in the fall.

Ellen Evans Markwell (PT ’83) received the Excellence in Clinical Practice Award from the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association in April 2012.

Karen Simmons Profitt (BS HIIM ’82, MHIIM ’11) was named vice president of Consulting Services for Just Associates in Centennial, Colo. Prior to taking this position, she was system electronic health record director for Exempla Healthcare in Denver.

Susan Stein (MT ’80) has reinvented herself by moving to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital after 31 years at St. Francis Hospital. She is now in the position of analyst in the Clinical Informatics Department.
1990s

Sheri Stewart Henderson (BS HIIM ’96) recently moved to Nashville with her husband. She works for Methodist-Le Bonheur Healthcare.

Kimberly Preissler Joyce (MA AUD ’95) completed her AuD last year and recently became an educational audiologist after spending the past 15 years at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha, Neb. She and her husband, Michael, have two children, Kate and Sam.

Kristen Lilly (BS HIIM ’99) works for Pershing, Yoakley and Associates in Atlanta, Ga.

Tina Mitchell (BS HIIM ’99) was recognized as outstanding employee of the year at the Memphis campus of National College of Business and Technology.

Selena Snowden (MA SLP ’98) is on the clinical faculty at Florida State University. She and her husband have three children.

2000s

Courtney Adel (AuD ’10) recently married. She is working as a clinical audiologist with the Greenville Hospital System in South Carolina, where she resides with her new husband.

Joshlynn Alford (BS HIIM ’05) has been promoted to the position of HIM informatics manager at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas.

Laura Barnhill (MOT ’11) moved to Eagle River, Alaska, where she works at Playful Learning Pediatric Therapy, LLC. She and her husband Billy are parents to five children.

Christy Mahan Brown (AuD ’06) owns and operates The Hearing Center of Wilkes, PLLC in her hometown of North Wilkesboro, N.C. She resides with her husband, Kevin, and daughter, Meredith.

Mary Ann Hooser Bryan (PT ’09) is an APTA credentialed clinical instructor at the Campbell Clinic in Memphis.

Melinda “Mindy” Freyaldenhoven Bryan (MA AUD ’03, AuD ’06) is an associate professor/coordinator for the AuD program at Louisiana Tech University. Her husband, Matthew “Doc” Bryan, (MA ’03, AuD ’05) also works at Louisiana Tech as an associate professor/c clinical coordinator. They are the parents of two girls.

Alicia Blevins Collins (BS HIIM ’00, MHIM ’10) works as a senior practice leader in HIM for Parallon Business Performance Group in Franklin, Tenn.

Alicia Nelson Collins (BS HIIM ’06) has moved to Kentucky to be the assistant director of HIM at Pikeville Medical Center.

April Clements (BS HIIM ’11) works in coding at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital in Ohio.

Chris Clinard (AUD ’04) is an assistant professor at James Madison University in the department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. He and his wife, Erin Tully Clinard (MA SLP ’04), have one child.

Stephanie Riggs Dillon (PT ’09) is working at Magnolia Regional Health Center in Corinth, Miss. She is currently working toward her PCS certification.

Rachel Brown Dunlap (PT ’09) works for Memphis Ortho Group.

Meredith Emmons (MA, SLP ’09) lives in Austin, Texas, where she is a speech language pathologist at St. David’s North Austin Medical Center.

Jana Gallemore (BS HIIM ’03) is the director of the HIM Department at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis. She is engaged to be married this year.

Beau Guidroz (PT ’09) has been promoted to clinical director at Momentum Rehab in Memphis.

Cynthia Smith Ford (BS HIIM ’01) recently gave birth to a baby girl, Lily. She is a senior systems analyst for corporate health information management at Methodist/Le Bonheur Healthcare.

Honna Houser (MA SLP ’10) is working at Mission Hospital in Adult Outpatient and in Pediatrics at Huff Center Therapy in Asheville, N.C.

Amie Hunt (BS HIIM ’03) and Rosalind Harper (BS HIIM ’05) are working in the Trauma Registry at the Regional Medical Center at Memphis.

Jaycie Music Hart (BS HIIM ’07) and Ana Ayers Teate (BS HIIM ’07) have completed MBAs through the University of Phoenix. Jaycie works as director of Health Information Management, and Ana is performance improvement specialist at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Collierville, Tenn.

Jennifer Marie Jeu (PT ’09) works at Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital in Birmingham, Ala. She recently became engaged.

Andy LaFever (BS HIIM ’11) is the physician suspension specialist at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis.

Ashley Larkin (DH ’06) lives in Memphis and works in two private dental practices.
**2000s**

Olivia Ruef Mash (MA SLP ‘05) is a speech-language pathologist at Emerson Academy of Dayton in Ohio. She and husband, Adam, have two young boys.

Amanda Nesbit (MT ’06) joined Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital Clinical Laboratory as a technical specialist for Infectious Diseases.

Logan Owens (PT ’09) recently became a certified orthopedic manual therapist. He is the regional director for Results Physiotherapy in Memphis.

Marie Poole (BS HIIM ‘10) works as a supervisor in the HIM Department for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis.

Airica Puckett (DH ’05) and her husband, L. G. Puckett (COD ’06), have two children. They live in Livingston, Tenn., where Airica works in her husband’s practice.

Gina Wiggins Ragan (PT ’09) is working in an outpatient clinic in Paris, Tenn. She is currently preparing for her McKenzie Certification.

JodiBeth Roberts (PT ’09) is working at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital in Memphis, assisting with research related to pulmonary function in children with Cystic Fibrosis.

Mikela Smith (MT ’09) married Anthony Gaines in June. Smith works in Transfusion Services at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital.

Joanna Webster Tampas (MA AUD ’02, PhD Hearing Science ’07) works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Knoxville. She and her husband, Greg, have two children.

Jennifer and Jet Thomas (PT ’09) are living in Nashville. Jennifer is the clinic director at STAR in Franklin, Tenn., and as a PRN in acute care at Baptist Hospital. Jet is a clinical director with Concentra Urgent Care and also works PRN at Baptist Hospital.

Diana Waring-Freyaldenhoven (PT ’09) works at Lauderdale Community Hospital in Ripley, Tenn. She is currently pursuing McKenzie certification and education in hippotherapy.

Kevin Webb (BS HIIM ’05) is the practice manager for the UTHSC College of Nursing.

Chereny Woodard (PT ’09) is working in outpatient services at St. Francis Hospital in Memphis. She is attending graduate school for an MBA.
Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital is proud of our partnership with The University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Our collaboration has shaped children’s health care through research and teaching efforts and by practicing advanced pediatric care. Together, we’re developing the next generation of pediatric health care professionals who’ll continue to provide a common thread of exceptional care for all children.

Cynthia Cross, M.D.
Medical Director of Le Bonheur’s Hospitalist Program
Assistant Professor, UTHSC

The next chapter in an amazing children’s story

 Ranked among the nation’s “Best Children’s Hospitals” by U.S. News & World Report
Graduation 2012

A common thread of exceptional care

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Assistant Professor,
UTHSC

The next chapter in an amazing children’s story

Daniel Boeder
Melissa Brown
Kristin Hoover
Brandon Jones
Pamela Matthews
Elizabeth Moore
Dominique Perkins
Kelly Roberts
Rachel Schoonover
Kristen Walls

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Danielle Avery
Maura C. Bailey
Patricia A. Becker
Olga Carnielo
Kelley Daniel
Sarah M. Dowlsley
Christine J. Edwards
William R. Hartzell
Ben Hoagland
Jessica J. Johnson
Hannah L. Kesler
Sonia H. Khiantani
Jennifer McCullough
Alan V. Meade
Maggie K. Millraney
Elizabeth Mink
Hollie L. Mizzi
Alex C. Nguyen
Bethany Peel
Haley Pukenas
Ginger Roganti
Jamie Sims
Brittany N. Skinner
Leslie Smelcher
Jacquelin Snider
Jennifer Snider
Anna V. Spence
Nancy E. Spicer
Abbie L. Staggs
Tida A. Terrell
Alaia L. Williams

Imhotep Society Inductees

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