



CAMPUS Connection

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UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER *at Fort Worth*

New president sets goals, HSC mission

What are the challenges that you face as the new president of the health science center?

The primary challenge is getting up to speed to better understand the people and culture of the organization. I have worked to create opportunities to meet with key stakeholders from across our campus, including students, staff and faculty. I am very interested in what people at the health science center are doing because I can learn from their perspectives. I love to hear people's stories. I've talked with several people here who have devoted their lives to the health science center, and I have enjoyed learning some of the history of our organization.

I have used many forums to better understand the various perspectives of people here at the health science center, including one-on-one meetings, small group discussions, conferences and four town hall meetings. I am actively seeking people's opinions on how I can help move our organization to even greater excellence.

What are your plans for the first 100 days of your presidency?

I am using my first 100 days to develop a community consensus on our shared vision, mission and values. In addition, I am working through many forums to create our one-year tactical initiatives to move the health science center forward. I hope to develop a community of individuals who are focused and passionate about embracing our four tactical areas: academic programs, clinical affairs,



Scott Ransom, DO, MBA, MPH, president of the health science center

research and community engagement. These four areas are core to achieving our vision of becoming a top-10 health science center in all the things we choose to do. While the goal of achieving top-10 status is somewhat intimidating, I absolutely believe that we have the talent and resources to move toward even greater excellence. I want to show our constituents that we can compete successfully as a world-class health science center.

What do you hope to learn in the first 100 days?

Fortunately, I've had a great opportunity to meet with many individuals

from across the health science center and the local community since my arrival. I've met with faculty, staff and many others, from executives to students, elected officials to custodial staff, and patients to department chairs.

I've completely enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the people who've provided me with the various perspectives needed to really understand what it means to be part of the health science center family. These meetings have given me the opportunity to determine how to move forward and how to really take advantage of the incredible resources and talent we have here.

Will there be any sweeping changes? If so, what?

We are going to become very focused on our tactical objectives in the areas of academic, clinical, research and community engagement programs. We are going to align budgets, efforts and accountability organization-wide to achieve excellence in these areas. Any changes that occur will be to support the adoption of these four mission-centric areas of focus. While we will revisit our tactical objectives in July 2007, I expect to remain focused on the plan that we have created with the input of several hundred students, fac-

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ulty, staff and community members. The central change will be the pursuit of excellence and creating a world-class health science center. By harnessing the power of our 2,500 students, staff and faculty, we can achieve a new level of excellence that our children and community can be proud of.

When you say mission-centric, what does that mean?

Mission-centric refers to those critical areas that we believe are core to the organization. Clearly, many functions in the organization support the four mission-centric areas, like police staff and custodial services. We must have a safe, clean and functional workplace to achieve excellence in our academic, research, clinical and community engagement programs. As our organization develops excellence in our four mission-centric areas, I expect that the health science center will become world-class in all of our programs.

Will you still be seeing patients? How do you hope to accomplish that? Why do you think it is important?

I intend to see patients and continue a practice in obstetrics and gynecology as part of my faculty responsibilities here at the health science center. I have always seen patients, since residency, despite my various executive, consulting and research focuses. I believe that seeing patients helps me maintain my connection to the faculty and staff and also keeps me grounded in what we're all about. Fortunately, I've always enjoyed the practice of obstetrics and gynecology. I intend to do call coverage in labor and delivery at John Peter Smith Hospital as well as continuing an outpatient clinical practice at the Patient Care Center here on campus.

The way I've approached clinical care is to be focused. Clearly, I cannot be all things to all people. I am only one person. I have a limited amount of

time. I have focused my practice on three areas that I believe I'm very good at and that I enjoy. At the University of Michigan, I developed and emphasized these focused clinical areas and developed a referral network across the region that I would hope and expect to develop here in Texas, too.

Will you continue to do research? How do you hope to accomplish that? Why do you think it is important?

I have a deep and broad interest in research. At the health science center, I will continue to pursue funded research activities. One of the NIH grants I brought with me from the University of Michigan is focused on improving African-American pregnancy outcomes. I have a passion for reducing infant mortality, which is the focus of this large, interdisciplinary NIH Roadmap grant.

The second area is in health policy. I have a foundation grant that helps support various research efforts related to physician satisfaction.

So yes, I am very interested in and passionate about continuing my research. I believe clinical practice and research will continue to keep me connected to the faculty and focused on improving the health and welfare of the individuals we serve. While it may appear somewhat atypical in this

organization to have the president continue clinical care and research programs, at most leading academic healthcare delivery systems, the chief executive officer continues to have active faculty appointments and continues to do some elements of teaching, patient care and research. So I intend to continue to teach in the classroom, see patients in the clinic and hospital, and pursue a research program to reduce health disparities and improve pregnancy outcomes.

Have you established goals for the health science center? What are they? What steps will you take to ensure that we reach those goals?

The targeted goals of the health science center are focused on the four mission-centric areas. We are currently developing a strategic plan for each of those four areas that includes unifying goals, strategic initiatives and metrics. For example, we are ranked 28th in the country for primary care among the country's 145 medical schools. We are creating a focused approach to move to top-10 status in everything we do. So for our medical school, we are developing a realistic plan to achieve even greater excellence and recognition.

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Dr. Ransom talks to Warren Anderson, EdD, associate professor and chair of education, acting senior vice president of academic affairs, and dean of the School of Health Professions, at the welcome reception Aug. 11.

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specific targets. As far as the short term, we are developing a comprehensive strategic and tactical plan that takes advantage of efforts made by health science center staff and faculty members before my arrival. The health science center has been going through a fairly comprehensive evaluation and strategic analysis since October 2005. Since my arrival, we've been able to hone those discussions into focused areas of attention.

It has taken many meetings of both small and large groups to develop the ideas, focus the mission, refine the vision and create the tactical initiatives, as well as define the specific measures of success. We are engaging all individuals from throughout the organization, from staff to faculty, at all levels. We had four town hall meetings that were open forums for faculty, staff or student members of our community to discuss our tactical initiatives and how we plan to get things done. I strongly encourage people to present their ideas and openly discuss their proposed approaches.

We will present this strategic plan to the Board of Regents Sept. 7 and 8. Once the strategic plan and our refined vision, mission and value statements are approved, we will develop plans for achieving our initiatives and execute those plans over the next year. In July of 2007, we will review and improve our plan to support our vision of becoming a top-10 health science center.

What are you planning to focus on during the first year that you are here?

The first year at the health science center is really all about developing a foundation for excellence, accountability and mission-centric focus. I did not come to the health science center to maintain the status quo. I came here to engage the community, both inside and outside the walls of the University

of North Texas Health Science Center. I hope to integrate the talents of our team with those of individuals in Tarrant County to develop a world-class institution here in Fort Worth.

Obviously, we have a lot of very good programs going on at the health science center. It is my intention to take advantage of those areas of good and to inspire and propel them to areas of world-class excellence.

The leadership team has identified the areas of aging and Alzheimer's disease, musculoskeletal and osteopathic manipulative medicine, health disparities, and women's health as areas of focus for the 2006-2007 academic year. I will work with various teams of researchers, academics, clinicians and community members to develop world-class programs in these four tactical areas.

As we develop excellence in those four tactical areas as a foundation, we will create an exemplar for the fifth program, then the sixth program, and so on, as we move forward in the future. By harnessing resources and focusing them on these four targeted areas, we have a chance to create truly world-class programs here at the health science center.

What is your vision for the health science center?

My vision for the health science center is to become recognized nationally as the premier health science center for the development and application of knowledge and interdisciplinary collaboration. We've already developed a great reputation related to primary care and rural health. I expect to use that foundation of strength to optimize our identified tactical areas. For example, in aging and Alzheimer's, we're looking at developing a comprehensive center that would blend basic, clinical, social, behavioral and public health investigation with clinical and educational pro-

grams. We will build on the excellence already developed here at the health science center to create a program with the breadth and depth of talent and resources to become world-class. So my focused objective is to create a nationally recognized, top-10 health science center.

What can we all do as employees and students of the health science center to help us reach that vision?

To become world class requires a community. It requires a community of all 2,500 students, employees and faculty, as well as alumni and even local citizens to harness all of our resources and talents in a focused effort to become excellent in various areas. So I am going to be reaching out to the faculty, staff and students to continue to build on this incredible foundation and create an environment that becomes even more successful than it already is.

As I've told various faculty groups since my arrival, ultimately a health science center is only as good as its faculty. In all the organizations that I've been in, it's the faculty that drives the organization. That's not to say that we don't need incredible staff, alumni and students. We need all of these groups' and talented individuals' perspectives to work together and really create outstanding programs and initiatives and, ultimately, a world-class health science center.

Is there anything else you'd like to address?

The health science center has a long and distinguished record of achievement, and I believe we are the number one osteopathic medical school in the country. It's an honor and a privilege to have this position, and I look forward to working with all students, faculty, employees, alumni and community members to work together to become a truly world-class institution. ★

Kudos to...

Martin Thornton, DO, TCOM 1982, a founding member of the American Board of Disaster Medicine instituted by the American Board of Physician Specialties, for recently winning the Clinical Practitioner of the Year award from EmCare, a national provider of emergency medicine support services.

Carol Knisley, editorial assistant in family medicine, for winning the Unsung Hero Award at the Texas Academy of Family Physicians Annual Business and Awards Lunch July 22.

Ray Morrison, DO, TCOM 1986, a general surgeon in Crockett, for being re-elected vice speaker of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's House of Delegates.

John Bowling, DO, associate professor of family medicine and director of rural medicine, for recently winning the T.R. Sharp Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Eugene Zachary, DO, professor emeritus, for being elected to the American Osteopathic Association Mentor Hall of Fame and receiving the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians Distinguished Service Award.

Elizabeth Palmarozzi, DO, TCOM 1984, associate professor and chair of family medicine, for being re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Brent Sanderlin, DO, TCOM 1996, assistant professor of family medicine, for being elected to fill a one-year unexpired term on the Board of Trustees of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Tara Hagopian, TCOM 2008, for winning a Texas Medical Liability Trust 2006 Memorial Scholarship.

Monte Troutman, DO, associate professor and chair of internal medicine, for being elected vice president of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Paul Worrell, DO, TCOM 1980, a Dallas family physician, for being re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Daniel Clearfield, TCOM 2007, for winning the 2006 American Osteopathic Association Presidential Memorial Leadership Award.

Robert Holston, DO, TCOM 1974, a physician in private practice in Cross Plains, Tenn., for being named DO of the Year by the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association.

Ray Page, DO, PhD, TCOM/GSBS 1991, oncologist and director of clinical research at the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders and adjunct assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, for receiving Southwestern University's Citation of Merit award for achievement in medicine and cancer. ★

EBAC Committee

The following people will serve on this year's Employee Benefits and Action Committee. Term end dates are noted in parentheses.

Jim Banks (2008)

Laura Barber (2008)

Charla Bradford (2007)

Diane Bradley (2007)

Kim Dozier (2007)

Katie Flemming-Ford (2008)

Sheila Harris (2007)

Sherry King (2008)

Susie Quintana (2008)

Judy Sager (2007)

Sallie Spotanski (2007)

Pam Struve (2007)

Randy Thomas (2007)

Minnie Zavala (2008)

Rand Horsman (ex-officio)



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New Penn State award honors Hahn

The Pennsylvania State University's College of Medicine, Department of Anesthesia, has created a new fellowship award to honor Marc Hahn, DO, dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and vice president for health affairs.

The award, the Dr. Marc B. Hahn Pain Medicine Fellowship Award, was created to honor Dr. Hahn's achievements and contributions in the field of pain management.

"I am both honored and humbled that Penn State would name this award after me," Dr. Hahn said. "I have committed myself to teaching future pain medicine physicians to hold themselves to the highest ethical standards when treating patients suffering from pain. Hopefully, this award will further that goal, improving pain medicine education and care."

Dr. Hahn was formerly a professor of anesthesiology and director of the Pain Medicine Fellowship Program at the Pennsylvania State University's College of Medicine. He also served as chief of the Pain Medicine and Palliative Care Division at the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

"As the fellowship director, Dr. Hahn was one of the pioneers in recognizing the importance of fluoroscopic guidance in interventional pain management," said Vitaly Gordin, MD, current program director. "While being a skillful interventionalist, Dr. Hahn has always emphasized the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of chronic pain patients. Dr. Hahn's national reputation has attracted some of the best young physicians in the country who wanted to learn the trade from one of the best in the field."

The award will be presented annually to one fellow in Penn State's pain medicine program who shows excellence in patient care and academic performance and who demonstrates mentoring skills for residents and medical



Marc Hahn, DO, dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and vice president for health affairs

students. The award winner will be selected by the faculty of the pain division at Penn State.

Robert Overbaugh, MD, one of three anesthesiology fellows at Penn State, recently received the first Dr. Marc B. Hahn Pain Medicine Fellowship Award. Dr. Overbaugh said the award holds special meaning for him because he was a student of Dr. Hahn's in the 1990s when pain medicine was still in its infancy as a specialty.

He said while working with residents and medical students, he tries to mimic the teaching model Dr. Hahn displayed while at the College of Medicine.

"He was patient and took a lot of time with students, which isn't always the norm for a busy specialist," Dr. Overbaugh said. "He wasn't overbearing in laying down exactly how to do something, and he encouraged us to develop our own techniques with gentle guiding when we needed it."

Dr. Overbaugh recently finished the fellowship and has joined Pain Specialists of the Greater Lehigh Valley at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Pennsylvania. ★

In the News

The "Work Faces" section of the July 10 *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported that **John Licciardone, DO**, professor of manipulative medicine and director of clinical research for the **Osteopathic Research Center**, has been selected as an Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Clinical Research Chair. The *Dallas Business Journal* also reported that **Dr. Licciardone** had been named as the endowed chair in its July 14-20 issue.

The *Fort Worth Business Press* reported in its July 17-23 issue and on its Web site that the Penn State University College of Medicine recently created a fellowship award in its department of anesthesia named in honor of **Marc Hahn, DO**, dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and vice president for health affairs.

The news that **Scott Ransom, DO, MBA, MPH**, was named as the new president of the health science center ran in several publications in July, including the *Fort Worth Business Press*, the *Star-Telegram*, the *Denton Record-Chronicle* and the *North Texas Daily*.

Robert Carter III, PhD, GSBS 2001, a research physiologist at the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, was quoted in an article about the military taking steps to reduce heat-induced problems in its troops stationed in the Middle East published on the *USA Today* Web site Aug. 8.

A story about a study using manipulative therapy to relieve low back pain in pregnant women being conducted at the **Osteopathic Research Center** aired on the local NBC affiliate and was published on its Web site Aug. 11. The article quoted **Scott Stoll, DO, PhD**, executive director of the ORC and associate professor and chair of manipulative medicine.

Panorama de Nuevos Horizontes published an article about the eighth annual **Hispanic Wellness Fair** in its Aug. 12-18 issue. The article included several pictures. ★

Hispanic Wellness Fair draws thousands in eighth year

The eighth annual Hispanic Wellness Fair brought an estimated 16,000 people to the Amon Carter Exhibits Hall at the Will Rogers Memorial Complex Aug. 5. People filled the hall's concourse and lined the sidewalk outside the building to wait for the fair to open as volunteers inside set up booths and prepared for the six-hour event.

This year's wellness fair was sponsored by the health science center, Advantage Supply, Aetna Inc., Bag King Inc., Baylor All Saints Medical Centers, Carter Blood Care, Coca-Cola Bottling, Cook Children's Health Plan, Cuidado Casero, EECU, the Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Harris Methodist Hospital of Fort Worth, the Hispanic Health Care Professionals Association, Nationwide Insurance, *Panorama de Nuevos Horizontes* newspaper, Pulido's Restaurant, Spring Creek Barbeque, JPS Health Network, Tarrant County Medical Society Alliance Foundation, the Tarrant County Public Health Department, Telemundo, United Health Care and its subsets Latino Health Solutions and Secure Horizons, Universal Health Services, Univision Radio, the University of Texas at Arlington School of Nursing's Center for Hispanic Studies, and the Village at Samaritan House.

"Once again this year, UNT Health Science Center is excited by the opportunity to partner with our community of health care institutions to provide thousands of folks health screening and health maintenance," said Daniel Perugini, DO, executive vice president of the health science center. "What an outstanding display of the Fort Worth health care community's spirit of volunteerism! It is all about 'la comunidad.'"

Screenings and services provided during the fair included vision exams, prostate cancer screenings, HIV/AIDS tests, respiratory screenings, dental exams, mammograms, glucose tests, immunizations for children, diabetes



screenings, nutrition screenings and osteopathic manipulative treatment.

"This may be the only time of year when some of the people who attend receive some of these services," said Adela Gonzales, PhD, MPA, vice president for community affairs and institutional diversity at the health science center and one of the founders of the Hispanic Wellness Fair. "I think this is an important service that we provide for those who don't have health insurance or access to health care. When I see thousands of people lining up for this, I think, 'We still need this. There is still a need for accessible health care.'"

School supplies and 1,800 backpacks were distributed to the first 1,800 school-aged children to visit at least three wellness fair providers. Vol-



unteers also distributed 200 bicycle safety helmets to school-aged children and their younger siblings at the fair, along with instruction on proper use and safety guidelines.

The fair has continued to grow in its eight-year history, having started with about 2,000 participants in 1999. The health science center co-founded the event and has been a sponsor and provided volunteers every year.

To see more pictures of this year's Hispanic Wellness Fair, log on to the Web site at www.hsc.unt.edu/annual/HWF. ★

TCOM loses founding professor Catherine Carlton

“Another giant is gone,” was the response of Jerry Dickey, DO, to the news that Catherine Kenney Carlton, DO, had died.

Dr. Carlton, who died Aug. 22, was one of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine’s first professors and served as chair of the Department of Osteopathic Philosophy, Principles and Practice until 1975. She continued as a clinical professor and a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees until 2004.

“We [the founding members of TCOM] all donated money, and we taught for free. We all did everything we could to get it going,” Dr. Carlton said in a 2000 interview published on the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association Web site.

Dr. Dickey, associate professor of manipulative medicine at the health science center, said he fondly remembers Dr. Carlton from the years before TCOM’s founding.

“I met her when we moved to Fort Worth in 1950,” Dr. Dickey said. “She was very direct. She wouldn’t condescend, and she’d look you in the eye. I always liked Catherine, from the time I was a kid, because she was a straight shooter and always very much herself and consistent. She was a great doctor and typical of the kind of people it took to build a minor profession, against all odds, into the winner that we are today.”

Janice Knebl, DO, MBA, chief of geriatrics, professor of internal medicine and Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc. Endowed Chair of Clinical Geriatrics, was Dr. Carlton’s physician.

“Overall she was a most amazing woman and osteopathic physician,” Dr. Knebl said. “She was truly a pioneer for the osteopathic profession. I admired and respected her greatly, and she taught me about the profession and how to act professionally. I was privileged to care for her until her death.”

Weldon Bond, DO, the first student to receive a doctor of osteopathic

medicine degree from TCOM, said he will miss Dr. Carlton.

“It was an honor to know and to have been instructed by Dr. Carlton in the first class that TCOM graduated,” he said. “I saw her over the years at the AOA conventions many times. She always seemed to remember that I had the honor of being the first to receive a DO degree from TCOM and of being her past student. We will all miss her and remember her fondly.”

Dr. Carlton’s influence in the early years of TCOM’s history is still appreciated.

“Dr. Carlton’s tireless efforts to help in the founding of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and her continuing work to educate our students throughout the years are an important part of the school’s history,” said Marc Hahn, DO, TCOM dean. “She brought years of experience and expertise into both the classroom and the exam room. Her contributions to TCOM have been invaluable.”

Each year that she served as clinical faculty for TCOM, Dr. Carlton took several students into her office to give them the benefit of her training.

“I don’t want to die without being able to pass on the knowledge I have accumulated through all these years,” she told the *Fort Worth Business Press* in a 1997 interview.

Dr. Carlton came from a family of DOs. Both her mother, Helene Kenney, DO, and father, Charles Kenney,



Catherine Carlton, DO, was a founding professor at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

DO, received osteopathic manipulative treatment training from osteopathic medicine founder Andrew Taylor Still, MD, DO. Dr. Carlton received her training in manipulative treatment technique from her parents.

Dr. Carlton, a Fort Worth native, earned her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Mo., in 1938. She moved back to Fort Worth after graduation and practiced

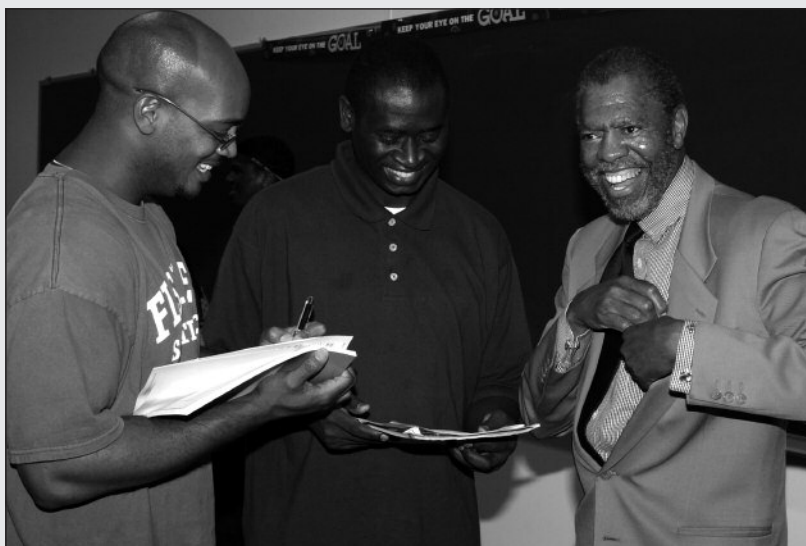
medicine at 815 West Magnolia Ave. with her parents and eventually with her first husband, Elbert Carlton, DO. She practiced in the same location for more than 60 years.

She was a fellow and former president of the American Academy of Osteopathy and was named the Physician of the Year for 1997 by the Texas Society of Osteopathic Family Physicians. She was a former member and past president of the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association Board of Directors and was a former vice president of the Texas KOAA chapter.

Dr. Carlton also served in the First International Congress of Osteopathic Medicine in Brussels, Belgium, in 1984. She was one of only three Americans invited to participate.

“I was the token minority,” she said in the 2000 KOAA interview. “The other two were men.”

Memorials in honor of Dr. Carlton may be made to the Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur, 909 W. Shaw St., Fort Worth, Texas 76110. ★



Kenneth Olden (right), PhD, ScD, LHD, chief of the metastasis section of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina, talks to Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences students Everett Nixon (left) and Kissaou "Bertin" Tchedre (center) after his role model seminar July 13. Dr. Olden was the first African-American to become director of one of the institutes of the National Institutes of Health in the history of the agency. Dr. Olden came to the health science center to talk to underrepresented minority students involved in summer outreach programs about his experiences as a student and a scientist. The seminar was sponsored by the Texas EXPORT Center and the Department of Defense-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Cancer Summer Training Program.

Center for health disparities announces fellows

The Texas EXPORT Center, developed by the health science center, recently announced its first group of STAR fellows, which included faculty members from throughout the United States.

The STAR (Steps Toward Academic Research) fellowship program was developed by researchers at the health science center to help address issues of health disparities.

"We are just beginning in our efforts to provide much-needed research opportunities on health disparities by giving faculty members an opportunity to help understand and eliminate health disparities among minority populations," said Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD, program director for the Texas EXPORT Center and associate dean and professor in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

The fellowship, designed to teach emerging biomedical scientists how to study health disparities, is a mentorship program. Fellows participate in collaborative training with faculty members from the health science center and other institutions to foster health disparities research initiatives.

Fellows are allowed to keep their current faculty appointments while participating in the yearlong fellowship.

Throughout the year, fellows will participate in a variety of educational

programs provided by STAR fellowship program faculty in a variety of modes. The fellows began their training with a three-day orientation at the first Health Disparities Conference hosted by the health science center in June. Weekend online or on-site seminars will take place monthly during the rest of the year.

Fellows will learn about the epidemiology and biostatistics of health disparity, research design, computer technology, community assessment, human subjects research, compliance with institutional review boards, scientific communications, grant writing, and health policy and survey research, and they will participate in a simulated research grant review process.

"The goal of this fellowship is to increase the number of investigators from the underrepresented minorities involved in health disparity research," Dr. Vishwanatha said. "This is an integral part of our Texas EXPORT Center because it extends our valuable existing partnerships with minority-serving institutions in Texas and surrounding states and provides opportunities to develop collaborative research programs addressing health disparities."

The Texas EXPORT Center is part of a grant awarded to the health science center from the National Insti-

tutes of Health in September 2005.

The \$7.25 million grant funded the establishment of the Texas Center for Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach (EXPORT Center).

The STAR fellows include three faculty members from the health science center: Jennifer Heffernan, MD, assistant professor of internal medicine; Harlan Jones, PhD, assistant professor of molecular biology and immunology; and Nuha Lackan, PhD, assistant professor of health management and policy.

The other 2006-2007 STAR Fellows are Bruce Benz, PhD, associate professor of biology at Texas Wesleyan University; Sheila Garland, PhD, chair and associate professor of nursing at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Gary Hill, DO, assistant professor of internal medicine at Nova Southeastern University; Lorna Kendrick, PhD, RN, director of the nursing bachelor's degree program and associate professor of nursing at Tennessee State University; Ihenetu Kenneth, assistant professor of clinical laboratory science at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; Florence Okafor, PhD, assistant professor of biology at Alabama A&M University; and Pamela Robinson, PhD, assistant professor of chemistry at Tuskegee University. ★

Dallas DOs continue to grow endowment for geriatrics chair

The Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc. Endowed Chair of Clinical Geriatrics Fund at the health science center grew to \$625,000 in July with DSWOP's fifth gift of \$125,000. The total endowment pledge is \$1.2 million.

Janice Knebl, DO, MBA, professor of internal medicine, chief of the geriatrics division and DSWOP Distinguished Chair of Clinical Geriatrics, and Greg Upp, interim vice president for institutional advancement and vice president for institutional coordination, accepted the gift at the Dallas group's July 17 board meeting.

"DSWOP has been a strong supporter of our programs and students for more than 20 years," Upp said. "Their \$1.2 million pledge is the single largest gift they have ever awarded, and this particular endowment holds special significance as the first chair in

clinical geriatrics among all 20 osteopathic medical schools."

Dr. Knebl said she has a vision for expanding the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine's training opportunities and clinical research program with the support of the fund. Eventually, she said, the endowment will serve as a permanent catalyst for providing comprehensive clinical geriatric services to many more older adults and their caregivers.

Dr. Knebl said her long-term goals include re-establishing TCOM's geriatrics fellowship program, greater inclusion of geriatrics in the medical student curriculum, research into geriatric education in medical schools, and clinical research projects on dementia, disease prevention and issues associated with assisted living, long-term care and end-of-life palliative care. ★

HSC supports African American Health Expo

Staff and students at the health science center put service into action at this year's African American Health Expo, held Aug. 12 at La Gran Plaza Mall in Fort Worth.

"At UNT Health Science Center, we think of ourselves as Fort Worth's university of the health sciences, and we care about our community," said Daniel Perugini, DO, executive vice president. "We want to ensure that the health and quality of life for the people of our community is at its best, and this expo is another way we can help."

Thirty-two health science center faculty, staff and students volunteered at the fair. Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH, assistant professor and director of education and research for family medicine, and students from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine gave 135 people blood pressure checks, BMI checks and diabetes foot checks.

Scott Stoll, DO, associate professor and chair of manipulative medicine and director of the Osteopathic Research Center, and TCOM students performed manipulative medicine treatments on 90 people.

Volunteers from the School of Public Health and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences distributed health information.

"The mission of the expo is to exhibit strategies for healthy living that fit the needs of the community, and most specifically, the needs of African Americans," said Len Roof, MSHA, MBA, chair of the expo.

"The expo features providers, vendors and demonstrations that target obesity and related diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, stroke, cancer and others," she said.

Roof said 1,500 people attended the expo this year. ★

Singh Open raises funds for memorial scholarship

Avid golfers and duffers alike took to the Pecan Valley Golf Course on a hot July day this summer for the Third Annual Sonny Singh Open golf tournament.

The tournament raised almost \$500 for the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship Fund.

This is the third year that Meharvan "Sonny" Singh, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, and his wife, Preeti Singhnarula, have hosted the tournament.

The first Sonny Singh Open, held at Squaw Creek Golf course, began as a way for friends and colleagues to get together and have fun outside of work.

A little friendly competition soon developed, and Dr. Singh turned the tournament into a full-fledged fundraiser in its second year.

Forty-four people participated this year by playing in the tournament, buying a commemorative T-shirt or donating money to the scholarship fund. Sponsors included Jim Var of Fisher; Kris Lebeda of Mediatech; Kevin Vestal of Nunc/Nalgene; Sarah Massey of VWR; Billy Sharp of EMD Biosciences; the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, which sponsored four medical students for the tournament; and academic affairs, which also sponsored a foursome.

Participants received a Sonny Singh Open T-shirt, green fees, range balls and lunch at the end of the tournament.

The winning foursome this year and winner of the green sock was the team of Jason Young, financial aid counselor at the health science center; his younger brother, Nathan Young; their father, Steve Young; and friend, Thomas Kulcak. ★

Schedule helps Chadwick stay on track with health goals

Bruce Chadwick, accounts coordinator for network systems and customer support, may be busy diagnosing all of those GroupWise account headaches that plague all of us from time to time, but he still takes the time to care for his mind and body with a little reading, a good helping of exercise in the gym and on the golf course, and a scheduled routine.

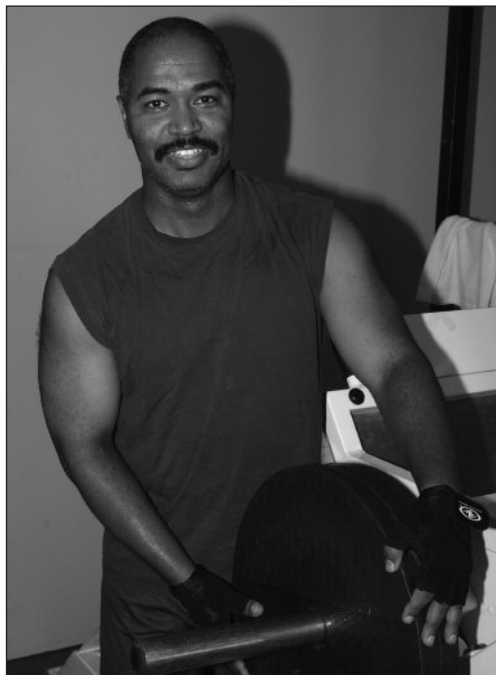
Schedule is very important to this Founders' Activity Center patron, who plans his entire week of exercise. "On Monday and Wednesday I lift weights for 15 minutes and play basketball for one hour. On Tuesday I lift weights for one and a half hours, and on "two-a-day" Thursday I lift weights for one and a half hours and attend kickboxing at 5:15."

Sounds like a busy week on top of work, but Chadwick says that "[exercise] is a good way to get in a zone and meditate, and it is also a good stimu-

lant for the mind."

Other healthy habits Chadwick follows to stay alert are eating a balanced breakfast and eating a lot of fruits and vegetables. "I love seafood, pasta, chicken, and a little pizza every now and then," he said.

Everyone has to start somewhere, so Chadwick encourages novices to start out with brisk walking; light, gradual increases in weight lift-



Bruce Chadwick

ing; and adding in a fun form of aerobics. Chadwick's advice to those who are just starting an exercise program is to "get an initial physical and discuss a program with your doctor. Then I would ease into a workout program."

Keeping a routine has proved successful for this busy IT professional. Chadwick demonstrates that discipline and moderation are keys to a balanced,

healthy lifestyle, no matter what systems glitches may come his way. ★



Supporting Our Troops

Left photo, from left: Jim Banks, Shea Patterson Young, Cathy Mobley, Kim Dozier and Lee Tayon (bottom photo) load boxes of items donated for troops in the Middle East during the Support Our Troops summer donation drive, sponsored by the Employee Benefits and Action Committee. Health science center employees and students donated 64 boxes of toiletries, food, clothing and more that were shipped to three different military units, including two from Texas.

Reyna Peterson and other soldiers from Task Force 21, one of the units that received donated items, sent a thank-you note expressing appreciation for the support of the health science center community.

Dear Lee,
Hello this is Reyna Peterson from task force 21. The ladies here were really enjoyed the packages that you sent us. We passed the guy stuff to the guys. We appreciate your support and all the thought i. effort put forth for all these packages. If you give me the email addresses, I will send you some pictures.
Thanks again,
Reyna Peterson Thanks RJ Hank
Cathy Mobley
Ronnie Crawford Thanks!
#1
Thank you guys for all the goodies... they are always a pleasant surprise!
-SPC Young
Thank you for your support
Cathy Mobley
Lee Tayon



Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Donovan selected as first recipient of memorial scholarship

Erin Donovan, a doctoral student in cell biology and genetics, has been named the first recipient of the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship. The announcement was made at the Graduate Student Association's Annual Awards Banquet May 12.

Rustin Reeves, PhD, assistant professor of cell biology and genetics and a member of the health science center's scholarship committee, announced the award.

"I am particularly pleased that the first recipient of the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship has followed so closely in Rachel's footsteps," he said.

Donovan received her undergraduate degree in microbiology from Auburn University in 2002.

She entered the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in 2002 and earned a master's of science degree in forensic genetics in 2004. She has been active in extracurricular activities at the health science center and served as the student representative for the health science center's presidential search committee.

In addition, she is a founding member of the Forensic Investigation, Research, and Education (FIRE) organization and has served as secretary and vice president of the Graduate Student Association. She is currently the incoming president for the organization.

She has also coordinated the health science center's annual Invita-



Lillian Dauphin, Rachel Dauphin's mother, with Erin Donovan, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics and the first recipient of the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship, and Rusty Reeves, PhD, member of the health science center's scholarship committee

tional Science Fair sponsored by the Graduate Student Association for middle and high school students in Fort Worth.

Donovan has also served as a fellow in Project SCORE for the last two years, working weekly with ninth-grade biology students in the Fort Worth Independent School District.

The Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Rachel Marie Dauphin, a doctoral

student in pharmacology and neuroscience who died on Nov. 15 after fighting Hodgkin's disease for almost three years.

Her mother, Lillian Dauphin, was present for the announcement. Contributions to the scholarship can be made to the UNTHSC Foundation, Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship. Contact Carla Lee, director of biomedical sciences admissions and services, for additional information. ★

Congratulations Summer Graduates!

Michelle Becker, MS
Jamalia David, MS
Tayton Finley, MS
Kristi Payne Hamilton, MS
Mark Hand, MS
Leslie Harrell, MS
Allison King Heath, MS
Patrice Hicks, MS
Adityanant Jain, MS

Donovan James, MS
Paramjit Kaur, PhD
Khawer Khadimally, MS
Jiyoung Lee, MS
Elysia Mallon, MS
Tracey Minzenmayer, PhD
Angela Pirooz, MS
Glynis Price, MS
Mohammad Rahman, MS

Sarah Rothwell, MS
Donald Selby, PhD
Jena Sparling, MS
Taylor Strange, MS
Rachel Sutton, MS
Jennifer Thompson, MS
Jessica Toler, MS
Adrienne Warner, MS
Allison Wright, MS

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

GSBS students inducted into research society

Each year, the Graduate Council nominates students to associate membership in Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, which recognizes outstanding achievement in research.

John Fuller, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics; Everett Nixon, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience; Zhaohui Wang, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics; Ritu Pabla, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics; Arti Sharma, doctoral student in integrative physiology; and Joshua Gatson, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience, were inducted at the Graduate Student Association's Annual Awards Banquet May 12.

Neeraj Agarwal, PhD, associate professor of cell biology and genetics, was inducted as a full member at the banquet.

Nominations were solicited from graduate faculty members, approved by the Graduate Council and forwarded to the national Committee on Qualifications and Membership for final approval.



Sigma Xi inductees (from left) John Fuller; Neeraj Agarwal, PhD; Everett Nixon; Arti Sharma; and Joshua Gatson with lifetime Sigma Xi members Ronald Blanck, DO, and Thomas Yorio, PhD. Not pictured: Zhaohui Wang and Ritu Pabla

Sigma Xi was founded in 1886 as an honor society for science and engineering. Today, this international research society promotes the health of scientific enterprise and honors scientific achievement.

Sigma Xi also encourages support of original work in science and tech-

nology and promotes an appreciation within general society for the role research has played in human progress. During its centennial celebration in 1986, Sigma Xi adopted an additional mission: to foster worldwide interactions among science, technology and society. ★

New Graduate Student Association officers (left to right): Erin Donovan, president; Melissa Kreikemeier, secretary; Gulab Zode and Shaun Logan, at-large representatives; and James Flynn, vice president



Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

TOMA honors TCOM grad as Student Doctor of Year

Heather Volkman, DO, a recent graduate of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, was named the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's Student Doctor of the Year for 2006.

According to TOMA, the award is presented to a fourth-year osteopathic medical student from Texas in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academic achievement, leadership, and service to the community and the osteopathic profession.

Dr. Volkman, a native of Cleburne, received her doctorate of osteopathic medicine degree in May. Prior to medical school, she earned a bachelor of science degree in biology and mathematics from Emory University in Atlanta.

While a medical student at TCOM, Dr. Volkman was on the dean's list from the fall of 2002 until graduation and was a class officer, a member of Sigma Sigma Phi Honor Society, a



Heather Volkman, DO

member of the Inter-Organizational Political Awareness Committee and a member of the Texas OB/GYN Association of Students, of which she was president from 2003-2004.

She also served as the Class of 2006 student representative to TOMA from 2002 to 2006 and was a student delegate to the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates in 2004.

Dr. Volkman also participated in a variety of community service activities, including volunteer work for the North Side Health Fair during National Osteopathic Medicine Week, for the Hispanic Wellness Fair and for Women's Health Awareness Day, of which she was founder and served as chair in 2004. She also served as a library volunteer at Tanglewood Elementary School, as a mentor at North Side High School and as holiday auction chair for Cook Children's Medical Center in 2002.

The award was announced June 17 during TOMA's 107th Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 at the Hotel Intercontinental in Addison. ★

Physicians' group names Fernandez Employee of Month

Hanh Fernandez was named Employee of the Month by the UNT Physician Group for the month of July.

"I feel honored that y'all have chosen me," Fernandez said.

Fernandez said she started working for the health science center about seven years ago, beginning as a medical assistant. She has spent the last four years as a clinical services representative II at the Seminary clinic.

Fernandez said her duties include verifying patient insurance, scheduling patient appointments, updating insurance information, answering the phones, collecting and posting patients' co-payments, and checking patients in and out at the clinic.

"Hanh is one who gives you 110

percent each and every day," said Lynne Holmes, clinical supervisor III at the Seminary Clinic. "She's rarely not here, never tardy and is ready to go when the doors open."

Holmes said Fernandez's great attendance isn't her only stellar quality.

"She is always looking to see what else needs to be done and helps her coworkers," Holmes said. "And on top of all that, she is tri-lingual."

Fernandez speaks English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

"Did we luck out when we got her or what?" Holmes said.

She said Fernandez's organizational skills are also an asset to her coworkers.

"She's just a great person as well as being a great employee," Holmes said. ★



Hanh Fernandez

Faculty Advances

Jerry Alexander, PhD, associate professor of education and director of Academic Information Services, and **Rebel Jones**, manager of evaluation and testing services, presented “No Medical Student Left Behind: A pro-active counseling approach to enhance student performance at Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine” at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine annual conference June 24 in Baltimore, Md.

Rafael Alvarez-Gonzalez, PhD, associate professor of molecular biology and immunology, presented the seminar “Molecular implications of the enzymatic oligomerization of PARP-1 with DNA polymerase beta and p53 for the integrity of the human genome and cancer” at the Northern Cancer Research Institute at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in England June 27.

Alakananda Basu, PhD, professor of molecular biology and immunology, reviewed grants for the Cancer Biology-1 Study Section for the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command/Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (2006 Prostate Cancer Research Program) June 14-16 in Reston, Va. **Dr. Basu** is also senior author of a paper, “Protein kinase C-epsilon activates protein kinase B/AKT via DNA-PK to protect against TNF-induced cell death,” published in the August issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. **Dongmei Lu, PhD, GSBS 2006**, is first author, and **Jie Huang**, senior research assistant in molecular biology and immunology, is co-author.

Kyung-Mee Choi, PhD, assistant professor of environmental and occupational health, is first author of the paper “El Niño effects on influenza mortality risks in the state of California” published in the May issue of *Public Health*. **Mark Wilson, ScD**, professor of epidemiology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich., and **George Christakos, PhD**, professor of geography at San Diego State University in San Diego, Calif., are co-authors.

Fred Downey, PhD, Regents professor of integrative physiology, presented “Adaptation to intermittent hypoxia sup-

presses cytotoxic nitric oxide production in dogs subjected to myocardial ischemia and reperfusion” at the VIII World Congress of the International Society for Adaptive Medicine June 23 in Moscow, Russia. **Myoung-Gwi Ryou, MS**, graduate teaching assistant; **Jie Sun**, senior research associate, **Robert Mallet, PhD**, associate professor, all of integrative physiology, and **Eugenia Manukhina**, professor, Institute of General Pathology and Pathophysiology, Moscow, Russia, are co-authors.

Michael Gatch, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, presented “Cross-substitution of nicotine and methamphetamine” at the annual convention of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Inc., held June 20 in Scottsdale, Ariz. **Michael Forster, PhD**, professor, and **Elva Flores**, technician, both of pharmacology and neuroscience, are co-authors.

James Hall, PhD, associate professor of internal medicine and psychology, and **Sonya Cornwell** and **Rebekah Harris**, both doctoral students in clinical health psychology, a collaborative program between the health science center and UNT Denton, co-authored two papers, “Differential diagnosis of dementia: Positive predictive ability of primary care diagnosis, magnetic resonance imaging and neuropsychological assessment” and “Mild Cognitive Impairment: Diagnostic utility of initial primary care diagnosis, magnetic resonance imaging and comprehensive neuropsychological evaluation,” presented at the International Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders, held July 17 and 18 in Madrid, Spain.

Robert Mallet, PhD, associate professor of integrative physiology, presented a research report, “Beta-adrenergic signaling and hypoxia-induced cardioprotection” at the VIII World Congress of the International Society for Adaptive Medicine June 23 in Moscow, Russia. **Myoung-Gwi Ryou, MS**, graduate teaching assistant; **Linda Howard**, research associate; **Arthur Williams**, technical/administrative director; and **Fred Downey, PhD**, Regents professor,

Continued on page 15

Faculty Advances

Continued from page 14

all of integrative physiology, are co-authors. **Dr. Mallet** also organized and chaired the session “Cardioprotective Adaptations to Hypoxia” at the congress.

Thaddeus Miller, MPH, doctoral student in health management and policy and research assistant in internal medicine, presented a brown bag lecture to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention July 6 in Atlanta, Ga. **Miller** and co-presenters Scott McNabb, PhD, consultant for the CDC’s Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, and Betial Teweldemedhin, MPH, of the American Lung Association and the Florida Department of Health, presented “Evaluating performance and measuring the cost of TB prevention and control and county and state health departments: Are we making an impact?” to an audience of CDC personnel, and the presentation was webcast to state health department personnel around the country.

Godavari Patil, PhD, a master’s student in biostatistics, presented “Physicians of Non-Participating Counties in North Texas: A Study in Public Health Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism” at the Texas Public Health Association’s 81st Annual Educational Conference April 23-25 in Plano. Her paper was selected as the best student abstract.

Sarah Ross, TCOM 2007 and master’s student in clinical research and education, presented “The Influence of Acculturation on Glycemic Control in Mexicans and Mexican-

Americans with Type 2 Diabetes” July 20 at the 47th annual Texas Academy of Family Physicians Scientific Conference in Frisco. Her poster received a first place award in the medical student poster competition at the conference.

Xiangrong Shi, PhD, associate professor of integrative physiology, presented “Baroreflex functional adaptations to habitual exercise in elderly humans” at the VIII World Congress of the International Society for Adaptive Medicine June 21 in Moscow, Russia. **Frederic Schaller, DO**, associate professor of internal medicine; **Nancy Tierney, RN, PhD**, assistant professor of internal medicine; **Patrick Chanthavong**, senior research assistant in integrative physiology; and **Shande Chen, MA, PhD**, associate professor of biostatistics, are co-authors.

Jim Stimpson, PhD, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, is first author of the paper “Depression and mental health among older Mexican-American spouses” published in the July issue of *Aging and Mental Health*. Kristen Peek, PhD, associate professor, and Kyriakos Markides, PhD, Anne and John Gnitzinger professor of aging, both of the University of Texas Medical Branch, are co-authors.

Albert Olivencia-Yurvati, DO, professor of surgery, presented “Leukocyte-Aprotinin Atrial Fibrillation Study” at the annual Therapeutic Filtration and Extracorporeal Circulation meeting July 1 at Hammersmith Hospital in London. ★