

UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER at Fort Worth

Merger expands clinical services, offers new research, academic opportunities

The University of North Texas Physicians Group and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine have added approximately 100 new clinical faculty members from the North Texas Affiliated Medical Group.

“Incorporating physicians from NTAMG into the UNT Physicians Group and TCOM will move us forward and allow us to expand clinical services, provide new research opportunities and advance our academic programs,” said Marc Hahn, DO, dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The enhanced UNT Physicians Group and TCOM are now responsible for the delivery of obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedics, podiatry, psychiatry, cardiology, rheumatology, outpatient community medicine, and oversight of the graduate medical education programs at John Peter Smith Hospital.

“This is an important time for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and UNT Health Science Center,” Dr. Hahn said. “Our partnership with JPS helps us better serve the citizens of Tarrant County. We are excited about the opportunities provided by this important relationship.

“In addition, our association with Plaza Medical Center, Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, Cook Children’s Medical Center and Baylor All Saints positions our physicians in the major medical facilities in Tarrant County.”

The UNT Physicians Group now has a total of more than 190 health-care providers, and the number of specialty services offered has expanded to

greater spectrum of academic opportunities for our students,” Dr. Hahn said.

The new faculty and support staff became official UNT Health Science

Center employees in October, providing a challenge for departments throughout the institution, from human resources to biomedical communications.

“Such a large scale training and processing of employees presented some special opportunities,” said Rand Horsman, director of human resources. “I think this was probably as much of a traumatic experience for our new faculty members as it was for us, but we were very pleased with the outcome.”

The human resources staff held two mass orientations at a central location to expedite the paperwork process. Biomedical communications staff photographer Tommy Hawkes was also

available at the meetings to take photos for identification badges.

“One of the very positive things that came out of this was the reaction

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Growing to offer

more

for you, Tarrant County.

For more information or to make an appointment with one of our physicians, call today.

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The new UNT Physicians Group—
Offering **more** of what you expect in medical care.

Our Story
From its beginnings with one physician in 1970 to more than 150 physicians today, the UNT Physicians Group has grown into the largest multispecialty group in Fort Worth. The past 35 years have been filled with achievements benefiting our patients and our community. Recognized by U.S. News & World Report for the past four years as a leader in primary care, the group now practices in 18 primary care clinics throughout Tarrant County. In addition to primary care, the group now has 77 specialty physicians in 25 medical areas to meet the advanced health care needs of Tarrant County. The UNT Physicians Group is part of the UNT Health Science Center, widely recognized for healthcare activities in education, research and community service.



**UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS
PHYSICIANS GROUP**

Affiliated with the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth

The newly expanded UNT Physicians Group is running advertisements in local publications to let the community know about its additional services.

32. In addition, the number of clinics associated with the group has expanded to 18.

“This not only will enhance our physicians group, it will provide a

Merger expands clinical services

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of our staff members,” Horsman said. “People really put forth a lot of extra effort and did some things that they don’t normally do.”

The transition from NTAMG employee to health science center employee is still in progress, with TCOM departments working to integrate the new faculty and staff members into the classroom and the practice plan.

“We knew this would offer logistical challenges,” Dr. Hahn said, “but it will lead to enhanced clinical services, increased research opportunities and growth in our academic programs.”

To announce the addition of NTAMG doctors to the UNT Physicians Group, the group has begun an advertising campaign called “More.”

The advertisements have appeared in the *Fort Worth Business Press* and are scheduled to appear in the *Star-Telegram* and *START Healthy* magazine. The ads focus on the group’s ability to provide more services as a result of its recent growth.

“We are looking forward to reaching out to the Fort Worth community even more and providing the most advanced medical services available,” Dr. Hahn said. ★

CAMPUS Connection

Campus Connection is produced 10 times a year by the Office of Marketing & Communications, UNT Health Science Center, 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., EAD-802, Fort Worth, Texas 76107, (817) 735-5452.

Please address all inquiries or suggestions to April Eubanks, editor.

Thanks to departments and student groups around campus for their continued commitment to contributing to Campus Connection. Special thanks to Carla Lee, Tommy Hawkes, Tony Martinez, Jennifer Martin and Tiffany Lopez. Without their involvement, this publication would not be possible.

Research!America ads promote awareness of prevention research and public health

Research!America placed ads in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and the *Dallas Morning News* declaring Nov. 21 as Public Health Thank You Day.

Ads also appeared in other major newspapers throughout the nation in an effort to raise awareness for prevention research and the job that public health workers do in protecting the nation’s health, said Liz Treviño, DrPH, public health training coordinator and the health science center’s liaison to Research!America.

Research!America, a non-profit advocacy group working to raise public awareness about the importance of funding prevention research, also extended its grant funding to the health science center’s School of Public Health until Dec. 31, allowing Dr. Treviño to place several other advertisements in the *Texas Public Health Association Journal* and *START Healthy* magazine.

“It is our hope that these advertisements will help raise public awareness about the importance of prevention research,” Dr. Treviño said.

RESEARCH SHOWS THE BEST WAY TO FIGHT CHILDHOOD OBESITY IS TO PREVENT IT.

Prevention is sometimes so obvious, we often take it for granted. But the prevention and public health research that are helping combat America's childhood obesity epidemic. By uncovering the genetic, social, economic, environmental and psychological causes of this disease, public health research is determining ways to keep our kids healthy. Fighting obesity through prevention and public health research contributes to health cost savings. Less than one cent of every health dollar is spent finding these answers. Even so, agencies like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which are leading the prevention effort, protect the health of our nation. To see what prevention means to you, visit researchamerica.org.

PREVENTION
Protecting what's important to you.

Research!America, APHA, American Public Health Association, ASPH, American Society of Public Health, ASTHO, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY & CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS, School of Public Health

The original funding from Research!America was used to organize a media advocacy forum and training

session earlier this year. The session, organized by Dr. Treviño and Kay Colley, manager of news and information, brought local media personnel and local researchers together in a panel discussion about how the media and scientists could more effectively work together.

Dr. Treviño will also be placing posters in English and Spanish advocating the importance of prevention research in several clinics throughout Tarrant County.

“I thought it was important to work with Research!America to translate their advertisements into Spanish so that we could reach a broader population, especially here in Texas,” Dr. Treviño said. “I

am using these advertisements as the basis for the posters that will be placed in the clinics.” ★

Happy Holidays from the Blancks

Dear Faculty, Staff and Students,

Donna and I are delighted, once again, to celebrate another holiday season with our friends and family at UNT Health Science Center. Each year that we have been here, our love for this institution and the people who make it so special has grown. We feel truly blessed to have been part of an institution that is not only world-class in terms of education, research, patient care and service, but world-class in the people that it attracts. Thank you for all you do on a daily basis to make UNT Health Science Center the best small health science center in the nation.

In reflecting upon this past year, we have seen quite a few successes: the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine was once again ranked in the top 50 medical schools for primary care by *U.S. News and World Report* and was ranked fifth by *Hispanic Business* magazine as a top medical school for Hispanic students.

Our external research funding topped \$20 million again this year, with our Project SCORE grant being re-funded, our Alzheimer's Program Project Grant being re-funded, and our Osteopathic Research Center being re-funded, just to name a few. We have also seen the start of our EXPORT center, funded by the National Institutes of Health, which will study health disparities. This unique grant puts UNT Health Science Center among the top schools in the nation who are working at the forefront to address the problems of today in medical care delivery and availability for underserved populations.

Our outreach to the community through the Hispanic Wellness Fair once again broke all previous records of participation, providing a much-needed community service to people in the area who might not otherwise be able to receive healthcare. Our Diabetes Research Education and Metabolic Studies project continues and is beginning to show promising results in reducing the problems associated with diabetes among the Hispanic population. And our work with evacuees from hurricanes Katrina and Rita showed the true mettle of our faculty, staff and students, as many of you willingly gave of your time, talents and money to help people who were in great need.

Truly, this has been an exciting year full of great promise for our institution and the community we serve.

But we have also experienced loss. The recent death of graduate student Rachel Dauphin, who succumbed to cancer, was a blow to many of us. Together, we have supported



Ronald Blanck, DO, president

her through this difficult time, and together, we have mourned her loss. Her memory will live on in our hearts and at our institution through the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship.

There have been other losses that we have experienced as a family and as individuals, but together we have always remained strong and provided each other the support that was needed to weather the difficult times. That's what makes this health science center so special — our deep sense of care and concern for each other expressed in what we do every day.

So as we celebrate this holiday season, whatever your religion, personal beliefs or traditions, let us all come together and honor each other. The work and dedication that we have shown throughout this past year to improve our institution and the community that we serve should be celebrated. And may next year bring us even more success as we continue to grow and explore the healthcare challenges of the future!

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Ron and Donna Blanck

Banks brings country singer Don Edwards to campus

When Jim Banks saw country and western singer Don Edwards perform at a concert 18 months ago, he decided that it would be a great opportunity to bring Edwards to perform at the health science center for the faculty, staff and students.

"I wanted to do something significant as a personal show of appreciation to the general staff," said Banks, computer user support specialist. "Because he does a great solo performance, I knew he could do a show here without the expense of his full band."

Edwards, who has been recording songs about the folklore of the West for more than 40 years, is a historian and author in addition to being a songwriter and performer, according to Edwards'

Web site, www.donedwardsmusic.com.

Using his own money to fund the concert, Banks contacted Scott O'Malley, Edwards' agent, and arranged for Edwards to perform at the health science center. The concert took place Nov. 16 in Luibel Hall.

In preparation for the concert, Banks constructed a stage that can be easily stored and moved for future events. Since Banks' undergraduate degree was in theatre, he said this was not a difficult task for him to complete.

Banks donated the stage to the institution. Judy Sager, art coordinator, will handle reservations for its use.

Tickets to the concert were free and available to health science center faculty, staff and students. ★

Kudos to...

Lori Johnson, PhD, GSBS 2001, and her husband, Tony Birrittieri, on the birth of their son, Christian Thomas Birrittieri, Nov.18. He weighed 6 pounds, 10.3 ounces and was 18.5 inches long.

Joel Ellis, MS, GSBS 2002, doctoral student in biomedical sciences, and his wife, Kendra, on the birth of their first child, a son named Austin James Ellis, born Dec. 1. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 22 inches long. ★

HSC winter holiday hours, services

Most health science center departments will be closed Dec. 23-30 for the winter holiday and will re-open at 8 a.m. Jan. 2, 2006.

The Gibson D. Lewis Library will be closed Dec. 23, 24, 25 and 31 and Jan. 1. The library will open Dec. 26-30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Clinics will be open regular hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., throughout December, except the Eagle Ranch Medical Center and the Seminary Clinic, which will be open 8 a.m. to noon Dec. 23 and 30. Both clinics will maintain regular hours Dec. 26-29.

Some additional services will be available during the break, including mail room, central receiving, courier, information technology and custodial services, and the safety office will handle radioactive deliveries.

Mail Room

The mail room will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dec. 23, 26, 27, 28,

29 and 30, and one mail pickup and delivery will be made each morning, including U.S. mail overnight items. Notify Susan Crutcher at ext. 2219 by Dec. 21 if you do not want mail delivered to your department.

Central Receiving

Regular deliveries will be held until Jan. 2. Overnight packages will be delivered to Campus Police. DNA deliveries by DHL will be delivered directly to the DNA laboratory. Staff will be on site from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dec. 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 to handle any packages that require special storage. With the exception of radioactive materials, deliveries made to Campus Police may be picked up by department staff.

Courier Service

Staff will make courier service runs to the clinics from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dec. 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. Clin-

ics that do not need pickup can page the courier at 817-364-3146.

Information Technology Services

For assistance from ITS, you may contact the Help Desk at ext. 2192 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dec. 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. Leave your name, extension and a description of the problem. Your call will be forwarded to a staff member.

Custodial Services

There will be limited custodial services (trash pick up, bio-hazard waste pick-up and restroom maintenance) from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dec. 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30.

Safety Office

Departments expecting radioactive materials should leave a message on the Safety Office voicemail at ext. 2697 including the expected delivery date to ensure packages receive expedited handling. ★

Public health training center receives additional funding

The Texas Public Health Training Center received an additional \$488,840 of funding for the next five years from the Bureau of Health Professions of the Health Resources and Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The center is a collaborative effort of the UNT Health Science Center School of Public Health, the University of Texas at Houston School of Public Health, Texas A&M University's School of Rural Public Health and the Department of State Health Services.

Robert Galvan, DrPH, assistant professor of health management and policy, is co-principal investigator for the center and will continue leading the training and collaborative efforts at the health science center. The training center is currently under the leadership of Virginia Kennedy, PhD, project director for the center, from the University of Texas Houston School of Public Health.

"We are excited that this project was re-funded by HRSA," Dr. Galvan said. "The Texas Public Health Training Center has done an incredible job in the past five years of providing much-needed training to public health professionals across the state. We look forward to the next five years with a renewed sense of urgency for expanding our reach to the Texas public health workforce."

According to researchers at the center, 51 percent of Texas' 254 counties are designated as whole county Health Professions Shortage Areas, meaning that a shortage of healthcare professionals exists in that area. Another 6 percent of the counties are designated as partial county HPSAs, and 18 percent are special population HPSAs.

"We have an overriding imperative to address these shortages throughout the state by providing training and assistance to the counties that need it," Dr. Galvan said.

As associate project director, Dr. Galvan will work with the TPHTC partners to provide quality learning programs to strengthen the technical, scientific, managerial and leadership abilities of the public health workforce; contribute to improved performance of the public health system; transform and strengthen the public health infrastructure; and provide policy makers with the scientifically based evidence needed to implement sound healthcare legislation.

For the past five years, the center has addressed workforce training needs through the Department of State Health Services, local health departments and health-related organizations. In the last four years, the TPHTC has conducted more than 89 training activities, reaching more than 1,000 public health professionals.

Training sessions have included live workshops, CD ROM programs, video conferences, conferences with other public health organizations and specific training delivered to all Texas public health regional offices through a grant by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The sessions have covered a variety of topics, including Public Health 101, collaborative leadership, practical evaluation for public health programs, public health law, environmental health issues for nurses, isolation and quarantine, introduction to epidemiology, and crisis and emergency risk communication, to name a few.

Dr. Kennedy said that over the next five years, plans for the center include increasing the number of trainings delivered, focusing on designing and implementing distance learning courses, and increasing the center's visibility.

Dr. Kennedy has also set a goal of attaining financial sustainability for the center by the end of its second funding cycle. ★

In the News

The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the health science center were mentioned in an article about the health science center helping out with the **Hurricane Katrina evacuees** in Fort Worth in the November edition of *The DO-Online*.

Mai Sharaf, MD, assistant professor of internal medicine, was mentioned in the "People On The Move" section of the Nov. 4-10 edition of the *Dallas Business Journal*.

Albert Olivencia-Yurvati, DO, professor and vice chair of surgery, was quoted in a feature article about home defibrillators in the Nov. 7 edition of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

Thomas Moorman, EdD, associate vice president for student affairs, was mentioned in the "People" section of the Nov. 7-13 edition of the *Fort Worth Business Press* for being named president-elect of the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators.

Ronald Blanck, DO, president of the health science center, was quoted in an article about the avian flu in the Nov. 10 issue of the *North Texas Daily*.

Ximena Urrutia-Rojas, DrPH, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, was quoted in a story about a clinic that helps obese young adults lose weight in the Nov. 14 edition of the *Star-Telegram*.

The Osteopathic Research Center receiving a \$568,000 grant to study Carpal Tunnel Syndrome was mentioned in the education section of the Nov. 15 *Dallas Morning News*.

The Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Chamber's move to a new location was mentioned in the "Medical Records" section of the Nov. 28-Dec. 4 edition of the *Fort Worth Business Press*.

The **health science center** was mentioned in a feature story about UNT expanding in North Texas in the Nov. 30 issue of the *Star-Telegram*. ★

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Dear Students, Colleagues and Friends,

I want to express my sincere wish that our students, faculty and staff have a safe, healthy and happy holiday season. This new year will be a special one for the health science center as we move forward with a master plan for the institution. The acquisition of the OMCT property has given us an opportunity of a lifetime, doubling our area in which to grow the health science center.

This past year I was fortunate enough to be named vice president for research in addition to my position as dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Our institution should be proud of our research accomplishments. Research funding has topped \$20 million each year for the past two years.

Much of the success has been due to the increased collaboration among the health science center's different schools. Together we have great strengths that are being recognized nationally. For instance, we recently received a \$7.4 million, five-year Health Disparities Center grant from the National Institutes of Health. This indeed was a major award for us, and thanks go to J.K. Vishwanatha, PhD, associate dean in the graduate school, and his team for getting this award.

We have also increased our collaborations with UNT Denton, the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of Texas at Dallas, our neighboring institutions, creating both research and educational opportunities for our students.

We have added a number of new faculty members, including molecular biology and immunology's first Welch Professor, Laszlo Prokai, and two brothers, Karol and Ignacy Gryczynski [professors of molecular biology and cell biology and genetics, respectively], who bring exciting, state-of-the-art technology to our institution. We look forward to seeing the impact these individuals will have on our research and educational programs.



Tom Yorio, PhD, dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Much of our success lies in the creativity of our faculty and students. Together they provide the fuel that feeds our quest for knowledge and provides the strength that produces the best approaches to health care through research and education. This next year should be another exciting and challenging time. We certainly have a lot to look forward to and, of course, a lot to be thankful for.

My wife, Elena, and I hope you all will have a pleasant and joyous holiday, and we look forward to working with all of you in the New Year as we celebrate the excellence of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the University of North Texas Health Science Center. ★

Memorial scholarship honors Dauphin

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work opportunities and found herself in his laboratories studying glaucoma.

"Although Rachel did not start off with a goal to do research, she quickly blossomed into a young scientist," Dr. Yorio said.

Because Dauphin was so active on campus, in the community and in GSBS activities prior to her illness, recipients of the Rachel Dauphin

Memorial Scholarship will be required to be active in community service in addition to having high academic and laboratory performance standards.

Dauphin graduated from Newman Smith High School and Austin College. She was active in Alateen, Al-Anon, the Graduate Student Association, and she even took up rock climbing after her cancer diagnosis.

She was studying for her qualifying exams and had hoped to prepare and defend the second part of her qualifying exams, a grant proposal, this year.

"She was a very special person," Dr. Yorio said. "I will miss her."

To find out more about the Rachel Dauphin Memorial Scholarship, contact Carla Lee at clee@hsc.unt.edu. ★

Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine/Physician Assistant Studies

Dear Students, Faculty and Friends,

I would like to wish all of you best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year! This past year was a historic one for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In February, we purchased the property that was once the Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, effectively doubling our campus "footprint."

On May 21, 115 physicians graduated with a DO degree, and 25 Physician Assistant Studies students earned Master's of Science degrees. We currently have 520 DO students and 84 PA students and anticipate an increase in those numbers for the coming academic year.

Hurricane Katrina brought new challenges in September as hundreds of evacuees arrived at the Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum over the Labor Day weekend. Our faculty, staff and students came to their aid, providing medical services around the clock for more than a week.

TCOM gained new hospital partners after the closing of the Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas and added approximately 100 new faculty from the North Texas Affiliated Medical Group. TCOM is now responsible for the delivery of obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedics, podiatry, psychiatry, cardiology, rheumatology, and outpatient community medicine, as well as oversight of the graduate medical education programs at John Peter Smith Hospital.

This is an important time for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the University of North Texas Health Science Center as we move forward with our increased clinical faculty, expanding hospital partnerships, new research opportunities and advances in our academic programs.



Marc Hahn, DO, dean, Texas College Of Osteopathic Medicine

My wife, Robin, and I hope all will have a pleasant and joyous holiday season. I trust each of you will continue to remember those serving in our military who are far from home and in harm's way during this time of year. Best wishes as we look forward to what the New Year brings for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine! ★



Great American Smokeout 2005

Kimi Harnage, TCOM 2007, health promotions chair for the Medical Student Government Association, visits the information table at the campus Great American Smokeout event sponsored by MSGA Nov. 18 in the Kiva Lounge. In exchange for two unopened packs of cigarettes or a \$5 donation, MSGA offered faculty, staff and students a chance to enter to win two tickets to see a Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Stars or Dallas Mavericks game. In addition to the drawing, MSGA offered snacks and candy to help curb cravings, provided information about the health risks associated with smoking and methods for quitting, checked blood glucose levels and blood pressure, and encouraged smokers to sign a pledge to stop smoking for 24 hours.

School of Public Health

Dear Faculty, Staff and Students,

This year has been a momentous year for UNT Health Science Center and the School of Public Health. I am excited about the progress our institution and our school have made!

In reflecting upon this past year, I am struck by the opportunities that we have had and the challenges that we have faced. The purchase of the former Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas property has provided us with a unique opportunity. Now, as part of our master planning process, we have undertaken a strategic review to provide a clearer picture of the direction our institution will be taking in the upcoming years. It is my hope that this process will bring our institution closer together to achieve our mission and vision for the future.

As you are aware, the School of Public Health has already undergone this process. I look forward to working within the institution to incorporate our vision for the School of Public Health into the overall vision of the institution.

Part of our vision has been to recruit outstanding faculty members who can help take the School of Public Health to the next level. While our school is currently considered one of the top schools of public health in the nation, we are always seeking ways to move forward in our quest for increased excellence in public health education, research and training.

The addition of three new department chairs — Harvey Brenner, PhD, social and behavioral sciences; Eric Johnson, PhD, MD, MPH, DTPH, epidemiology and environmental and occupational health; and Jeff Talbert, PhD, health management and policy — put our school in the perfect position to expand our research, curriculum and community outreach to further meet the needs of a changing society. As we bring in more new faculty members, it is my pledge to you that a sense of community will be fostered in our school, allowing us to move forward toward our vision for the School of Public Health.

The record-breaking attendance at this year's Hispanic Wellness Fair and its continued growth each year demonstrate the importance of the community outreach work that we do. It is projects such as this, our *Promotores de Salud*, and the



Fernando Treviño, PhD, MPH, dean, School of Public Health

Diabetes Research Education and Metabolic Studies (DREAMS) project that make clear our commitment to the ever-increasing Hispanic population in Tarrant County.

The School of Public Health has further committed to community involvement by establishing a Center for Public Health Practice, to be led by Claudia Coggin, PhD, MS, CHES. This center will allow our school to fulfill its commitment to the community and provide our students with opportunities to put their knowledge into practice.

We have had many successes this year. Let us celebrate these successes, and may we face the challenges of the New Year with a renewed sense of purpose and vigor.

In this season of giving and receiving, please accept my sincerest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season for you and your family. May the warmth of the season sustain you, and may you all enjoy a much-deserved break. Happy Holidays! ★

School of Public Health

Small Campus, Big Difference: PHSA supports relief efforts for hurricane evacuees

Students in the Public Health Student Association have many motivations for volunteering. Students become involved for reasons such as religious beliefs, major requirements or the desire to give to the community.

The Public Health Student Association recently provided a service to the community by holding a fundraiser for hurricane Katrina victims. "Small Campus, Big Difference" was the motto used to promote this effort.

The health science center student body, faculty and staff were receptive to PHSA's efforts. As a result, \$1,668 was raised and donated to the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Public health is a way to serve not only the community, but also the nation and the world. This diverse



field encompasses both academia and real world practices, and the health sci-

ence center's PHSA students exemplify what public health is all about. ★

SPH, student association host annual career fair

The School of Public Health and the Public Health Student Association hosted their annual career fair Oct. 24 in the Atrium.

More than 75 students attended the fair, which provided the opportunity to speak with representatives from 30 local, state and national organizations, including the

Tarrant County Public Health Department, the Office of the Texas Attorney General, the SPH Alumni Society, the Greater Fort Worth Dental Hygienists'



Society, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, and many more. In other words, it was the biggest fair yet.

The goal of the career fair was to promote greater awareness of potential employers. Students within the different concentrations in the School of Public Health were able to gain pertinent information about internship and employment opportunities.

The career fair also allowed students to learn more about the public health sector and the skills needed to become a successful public health professional. ★

Health Care Heroes 2006

Each year the Fort Worth Business Press holds “Healthcare Heroes,” an event that recognizes outstanding performances in the healthcare industry. Any person (or group) in the medical industry who has made a difference in some way is eligible for nomination.

This year, the health science center had six honorees: Ronald Blanck, DO, president of the health science center and 2005 Legacy Award winner; Russell Gamber, DO, MPH; Laurie Hill, PA-C; Melva Jones, LVN; Albert Olivencia-Yurvati, DO; and James Simpkins, PhD. Several former students were also recognized as Healthcare Heroes this year.

If you know someone who is worthy of such recognition, please nominate them using this form. Send it to: Emily Rhodes, Marketing, Fort Worth Business Press, 3509 Hulen, Suite 201, Fort Worth, TX 76107. An online application is also available at www.fwbusinesspress.com. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 3.

Nominee’s Information

Name:

Company:

Title:

Mailing Address:

Phone number:

Email address:

Education:

Community Involvement:

This person deserves to be honored because:

Nominator’s Information

Your name:

Company:

Address:

Phone:

Email address:

Faculty Advances

Albert Olivencia-Yurvati, DO, professor of surgery, presented a keynote address, “Cardiothoracic Surgery: An Awesome Career,” at the national American Heart Association meeting Nov. 15 in Dallas. He spoke to 450 high school students at a special component of the scientific sessions.

Michael Gatch, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, is author of the paper “Ethanol substitutes for the discriminative stimulus effects of m-chlorophenylpiperazine” published in the Nov. 16 issue of *Brain Research*.

Arti Sharma, MBBS, doctoral student in integrative physiology, presented “Pyruvate therapy during cardiopulmonary resuscitation protects post-arrest neurological function” at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions Nov. 12 in Dallas. **Shaohua Yang, MD, PhD**, research assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience; **Mathew Barlow, MS**, graduate teaching assistant in integrative physiology; **Arthur Williams**, technical/administrative director for integrative physiology; **Linda Howard**, research associate in integrative physiology; **Marty Knott, DO/PhD** student; **Myoung-Gwi Ryou, MS**, doctoral student in integrative physiology; and **Robert Mallet, PhD**, associate professor of integrative physiology, are co-authors.

Robert Mallet, PhD, associate professor of integrative physiology, presented a seminar, “Cardioprotective Adaptations to Intermittent, Normobaric Hypoxia,” to the departments of internal medicine, emergency medicine and physiology at Virginia Commonwealth University Nov. 29 in Richmond, Va.

Francisco Soto Mas, MD, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, is first author of the paper “Hispanic physicians’ tobacco intervention practices: a cross-sectional survey study,” published Nov. 14 by BMC Public Health (available online at <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/5/120>). **Ximena Urrutia-Rojas, DrPH**, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences; **Holly Jacobson,**

PhD, former research assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, and **Chiehwen Ed Hsu, PhD, MPH**, former assistant professor of health management and policy, are co-authors. Richard Papenfuss, PhD, associate professor of health promotion at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and William Kane, professor of health promotion at the University of New Mexico, are also co-authors.

Khiya Marshall, MPH, doctoral student in social and behavioral sciences, is first author of the paper “Health status and access to health care of documented and undocumented immigrant Latino women,” published in the November issue of *Health Care for Women International*. **Ximena Urrutia-Rojas, DrPH**; **Francisco Soto Mas, MD, PhD, MPH**; and **Claudia Coggin, PhD, MS, CHES**, all assistant professors of social and behavioral sciences, are co-authors.

Tina Machu, PhD, associate professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, presented “Ligand Recognition in the 5-HT_{3A} Receptor: The Roles of Loops C and F” at the 5-HT₃ Receptor Symposium, a satellite meeting of the Society for Neuroscience Meeting, Nov. 11 in Washington, D.C.

Wolfram Siede, PhD, associate professor of cell biology and genetics, is co-author of the textbook *DNA Repair and Mutagenesis, Second Edition*, published by the American Society of Microbiology Press. Errol Friedberg, professor, University of Southwestern Medical Center, is first author. Graham Walker, professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Richard Wood, professor, University of Pittsburgh; Roger Schultz, associate professor, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; and Tom Ellenberger, professor, Harvard University, are co-authors.

Laszlo Prokai, PhD, Robert A. Welch Professor, molecular biology and immunology, was awarded a patent, “Antagonists of RF-amide neuropeptides,” Nov. 1 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The patent disclosed agents that may be developed into pharmaceuticals to treat drug addiction. ★