

Student research shines at 14th RAD

Julian Paton, PhD, professorial research fellow in the Department of Physiology at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom, spoke to an overflowing crowd at this year's 14th annual Research Appreciation Day April 7, but the health science center students took center stage.

A total of 183 presentations took place throughout the day, with 17 oral presentations and 166 poster presentations. While some poster presentations were the products of faculty and staff members at the health science center, the oral presentations were the work of students.

This was the first year that the entire event took place in the Center for BioHealth, with the keynote address taking place in room 200 and overflowing into rooms 201 and 202.

"We were excited that so many people were able to attend this year," said Thomas Yorio, PhD, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. "We had people from throughout the community come by and take a look at the research going on here at the health science center and stay for our keynote speech and oral presentations."

Students from JP Elder Middle School also had artwork and essays on display at the event in celebration of National Public Health Week. The Public Health Student Association sponsored the contest with the local middle school.



Shalini Persaud, doctoral student in biochemistry and molecular biology, who won the first place Graduate Student Association Poster Presentation Award for the morning session, presents her poster to judge Mitchell McCartney, PhD, director of research analytical resources for Alcon Research Ltd.

Dr. Paton presented his view of the origins of high blood pressure in his keynote address, "High Blood Pressure: Is It Caused by Vascular Inflammation in the Brainstem?" His research specifically targets hypertension, or high blood pressure, which is becoming increasingly prevalent worldwide.

Dr. Paton said that the causes of hypertension are well known – stress, obesity and a sedentary lifestyle, diet, heredity, and neurogenic factors – but new research in his lab at the University of Bristol is showing promising results on ways to diagnose hypertension, which is significant because more

than 50 percent of people who have hypertension are unaware of it.

Dr. Paton also made the point that much-needed research is not occurring on the treatment and causes of hypertension at the basic science level, even though the disease continues to affect approximately 600 million people worldwide. He said that today's scientists could learn a lot from giraffes, who have adapted to high blood pressure.

"But the pace of man's existence is a lot faster than the pace of evolution," Dr. Patton said. "There hasn't been enough time for us to adapt to high

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Research Appreciation Day

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Winners of the Research Appreciation Day 2006 poster and oral presentation competition.

blood pressure, which is why research is so important.”

The keynote address was preceded and followed by poster and oral presentation competitions for students, postdoctoral fellows and residents. A panel of judges selected the top presentations in each category, and prizes were awarded to winners at an awards ceremony later that day.

The Alcon Research Achievement Postdoctoral Fellow Poster Presentation Award went to Martha Stokely, PhD, GSBS 2002, research scientist in pharmacology and neuroscience. The first place Alcon Research Achievement Oral Presentation Award went to Dongmei Lu, doctoral student in molecular biology and immunology; second place went to Tommy “T.J.” Bartosh, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics.

The first place Graduate Student Association Oral Presentation Award went to Sung-Yong Hwang, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience; second place went to Lorie Gonzalez, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience.

The first place Graduate Student Association Poster Presentation Award

for the morning session went to Shalini Persaud, doctoral student in biochemistry and molecular biology; second place went to Christina Pachia, doctoral student in integrative physiology; and third place went to Shaoqing He, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience.

The first place Graduate Student Association Poster Presentation Award for the afternoon session went to Kissaou Tchedre, doctoral student in biomedical sciences; second place went to Rusha Thomas, doctoral student in microbiology and immunology; and third place went to Gulab Zode, doctoral student in cell biology and genetics.

The first place Public Health Student Association Oral Presentation Award went to Thaddeus Miller, MPH, SPH 2003, doctoral student in health management and policy and research fellow in internal medicine; and second place went to Anita Kurian, doctoral student in clinical research.

The first place Public Health Student Association Poster Presentation Award went to Kurian, and second place went to Khiya Marshall, doctoral student in social and behavioral sciences.

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.

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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, Tiffany Lopez, Nicki McGee and Janet Zipperlen. Without their involvement, this publication would not be possible.

The first place Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Poster Presentation Award went to Michael Nye, PA 2007, and second place went to Angela Brimhall, TCOM 2007.

Tech Fort Worth sponsored an Innovation Award that went to Anne Barnett, a doctoral student at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, who is working in the lab of Karol Gryczynski, PhD, professor of molecular biology and immunology.

A post-awards party was hosted by the Graduate Student Association and the Graduate School Alumni Association at Dos Gringos restaurant.

Research Appreciation Day is an institutional tradition encompassing medicine, public health and basic science. The program provides an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to share their research efforts with the campus community and the public.

Sponsors of the event include Alcon Research Ltd., VWR International, the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas, Fort Worth MedTech Center, the Graduate Student Association, the Public Health Student Association and Travel Service Everywhere. ★

TCOM ranks in top 50 medical schools for fifth consecutive year

The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine was ranked among the top 50 medical schools in primary care this year, according to recently released rankings from *U.S. News and World Report*.

This is the fifth year in a row that TCOM has been ranked in the top 50 medical schools in the United States.

"In the last five years, we have garnered national recognition for success in medical education with leading-edge efforts in curriculum reform, the use of medical simulation for training and a unique rural track program to train primary care physicians for rural Texas," said Marc Hahn, DO, TCOM dean.

The ranking for 2006 was higher this year, with TCOM placing 28th in the nation for primary care among medical schools. Expanding the number of affiliated residency programs and continuing efforts to maintain state-of-the-art programs in medical education for primary care helped move the medical school into the top 30 again, Dr. Hahn said.

"In addition to our undergraduate medical education initiatives, Fort Worth's medical school continues to work in partnership with Plaza Medical Center Fort Worth's primary care residency training programs in family medicine and internal medicine," Dr. Hahn said. "In addition, TCOM faculty oversee the local graduate medical education programs at John Peter Smith Hospital in orthopedics, obstetrics/gynecology and psychiatry. TCOM also has affiliations with other primary care graduate training programs throughout Texas."

TCOM saw more than 77 percent of its graduates enter primary care programs between 2002 and 2005. The other two Texas medical schools that ranked in the top 50 for primary care, Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, had 45.6 percent and 44 percent respectively of their graduates enter primary care in that period.

"Our focus on primary care has continued to be recognized both locally and on a national basis," Dr. Hahn said. "As part of our mission, we continue to maintain the focus to provide Texas and the nation with much-needed primary care physicians. We will continue this high level of service while expanding into other needed areas of medical care."

Each year, *U.S. News* ranks professional-school programs in business, education, engineering, law and medicine. The rankings are based on expert opinion about program quality and statistical indicators that measure the quality of the school's faculty, research and students.

To gather the opinion data, *U.S. News and World Report* surveyed deans, program directors and senior faculty to judge the academic quality of programs in their field on a scale of 1, for marginal, to 5, for outstanding. Professionals who hire new graduates were also surveyed for the rankings. ★

Nobel laureate to speak at health science center May 8

A Nobel Prize winner in physiology and medicine will speak at the health science center May 8.

Rolf Zinkernagel, MD, PhD, will speak about HIV/AIDS during his noon address, "Why Don't We Have a Vaccine Against HIV Yet?" The event will take place at noon in Luibel Hall in the Education and Administration Building, room 108.

Dr. Zinkernagel shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in medicine with Peter Doherty, PhD, for "their discoveries concerning the specificity of the cell mediated immune defense," according

to the Nobel Foundation.

Dr. Zinkernagel was 29 when he discovered how the immune system recognizes viruses in cells. He has spent the bulk of his career researching viruses and the immune system at the University of Zurich in Switzerland.

In addition to winning the Nobel Prize, Drs. Zinkernagel and Doherty won the Lasker Award in 1995. Both awards were for research that the duo had done between 1973 and 1975 in Canberra, Australia.

During studies of how mice respond to viruses, they found that

white blood cells must recognize both the virus and certain "self" molecules to kill the virus-infected cells. These "self" molecules are now recognized as key determinants to the success or failure of transplants.

The discovery of how the immune system reacts to viruses led Dr. Zinkernagel to work on other viruses, including HIV, later in his research career.

Dr. Zinkernagel earned a medical degree from the University of Basel in Switzerland and a doctorate from Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. ★

HSC hosts annual student art competition

The annual 12-county high school art competition, sponsored by the health science center and Asel Art Supply, began April 1 and will wrap up with awards presentations and college interviews April 23.

The art show is scouted by 14 major universities annually, and many of the schools award scholarships to competition winners.

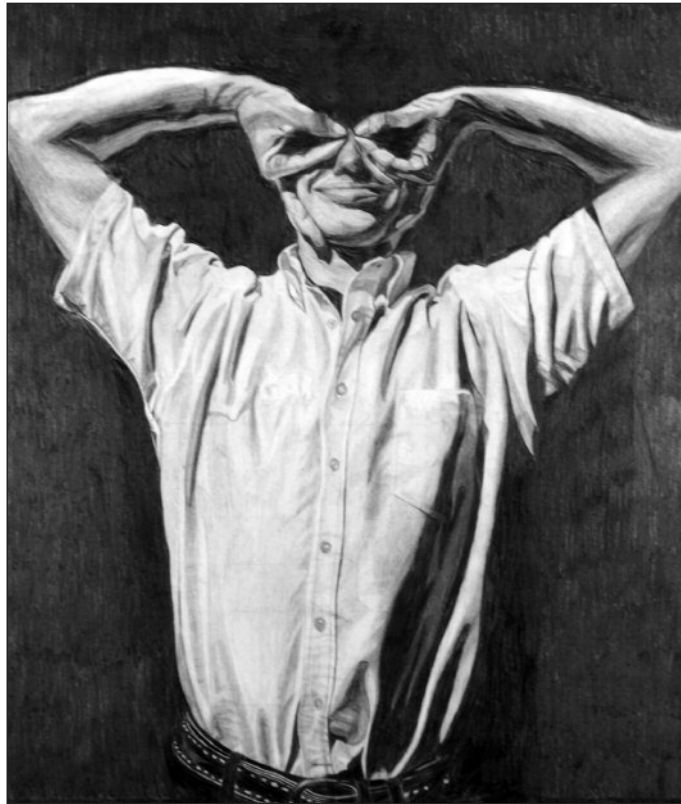
All eleventh and twelfth grade students from Brown, Comanche, Cooke, Denton, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties are eligible to enter the juried art competition. Each student was allowed to enter up to four separate pieces.

Cash prizes and a gift certificate from Asel Art Supply Inc. will be awarded for first, second and third place in 10 categories: painting, printmaking, mixed media, three-dimensional, color graphics, black and white drawing, photography, computer art, ceramics, and watercolor.

Ribbons will be given for fourth place through honorable mention in each category. The student or a teacher must be present to accept the awards.

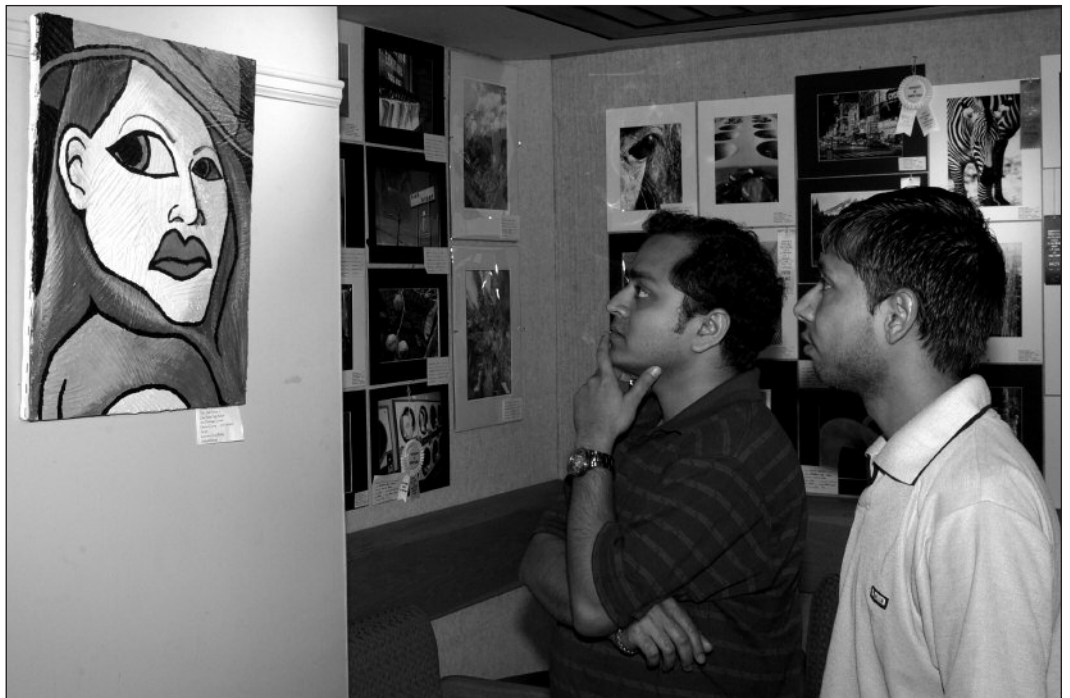
One student's artwork was selected for the cover of the 2007 invitation for the art competition. The student who received this honor also received \$50 and a plaque.

The 12-county high school art competition began in 1985 and now includes more than 1,500 entries each year from more than 120 school districts. The competition and exhibi-



Top: Black and white drawing by Houston Haile, a 12th grader at Trinity Valley School. His drawing, which won second place in its category, has been selected to be on the cover of the 2007 invitation for the competition.

Bottom: Visitors to the Atrium Gallery admire the artwork of 11th and 12th grade students from Brown, Comanche, Cooke, Denton, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties. The artwork has been on display since April 1, and judging took place on April 2. Winners will be announced Sunday, April 23.



tion take place in the health science center's three-story Atrium Gallery, which hosts local art shows and competitions throughout the year.

For more information about the competition, contact Judy Sager at 817-735-2658, or e-mail her at jsager@hsc.unt.edu. ★

Former U.S. Coast Guard Surgeon General to speak at commencement

Former U.S. Coast Guard Surgeon General Joyce Johnson, DO, MA, will speak at the health science center commencement ceremonies on May 20.

The ceremonies will take place at 2 p.m. at the Fort Worth Convention Center Arena. According to preliminary figures, more than 260 students will graduate, including 114 new doctors of osteopathic medicine. Tickets are not required for admission to the commencement ceremony, and there is no limit to the number of people a student may invite.

Commissioning ceremonies for students who will be joining the military will take place immediately following the commencement ceremony, and Ronald Blanck, DO, president of the health science center, and military personnel will officiate.

Dr. Johnson, a retired rear admiral, will receive an honorary degree, a doctor of public service, from the health science center.

Dr. Johnson served as the U.S. Coast Guard's Chief Medical Officer, functioning as surgeon general, when she retired from the U.S. Public Health Service in December 2003. Her other government assignments included senior scientific and management positions with the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Johnson has extensive international health experience and has pro-

vided consultation or clinical care on all seven continents. She is board certified in three specialties: public health and preventive medicine, clinical pharmacology, and psychiatry. She is also a certified addiction specialist and certified food service executive.

Dr. Johnson has an honorary doctor of science degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and an honorary doctor of fine arts from New York Institute of Technology in addition to the doctor of osteopathy and master of arts degrees in hospital and health administration that she earned at Michigan State University and the University of Iowa, respectively.

The current vice president of health sciences in the health and life sciences division of Battelle Memorial Institute, Dr. Johnson writes the regular Ask the Doctor column for the *Military Officer Magazine* and recently completed editing the book *The Ship's Medical Chest and Medical Aid at Sea*. She has faculty appointments at Georgetown University School of Medicine, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

For more information about the commencement ceremony, go to <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/departments/registrar/default.htm>. The Fort Worth Convention Center Arena is located at 1201 Houston Street in Fort Worth. ★

HSC to host sleep clinic opening

The health science center will host a grand opening Thursday, April 27, for its Sleep Diagnostic Center.

The Sleep Diagnostic Center and Laboratory will provide testing for patients who suffer from sleep disorders such as sleep apnea, insomnia and narcolepsy.

Sherif Al-Farra, MD, assistant professor of internal medicine and chief of

the division of pulmonology in internal medicine, will serve as the director of the new center.

Dr. Al-Farra is a diplomat of the American Board of Sleep Medicine and has been treating patients with sleep disorders for more than 10 years.

He said he is also interested in collaborating with health science center

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In the News

John Fling, MD, associate professor and acting chair of allergy and immunology in pediatrics, was quoted in an article about the recent FDA approval of generic over-the-counter Flonase spray for allergy sufferers that ran in the Feb. 24 issue of the *Star-Telegram*.

The March issue of *Pulse* magazine ran an article on current research into treatments for multiple sclerosis that mentioned an investigation headed by **Scott Stoll, DO, PhD**, chair and associate professor of manipulative medicine and executive director of the Osteopathic Research Center, into whether intensive exercise can benefit multiple sclerosis patients.

The promotion of **Elizabeth Palmarozzi, DO**, chair of family medicine, from assistant professor to associate professor of family medicine was announced in the March 3 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The "Medical Records" section of the March 13-19 *Fort Worth Business Press* contained a story about inaccurate drug data presented by pharmaceutical companies when they promote their drugs. It was a synopsis of a longer article published by **Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH**, assistant professor of family medicine, and **John Licciardone, DO**, professor of manipulative medicine and director of clinical research for the Osteopathic Research Center, in the journal *BMC Family Practice* and contained a summary of their findings along with several quotes.

The "Medical Records" section of the March 27 - April 2 issue of the *Fort Worth Business Press* discussed the \$2 million grant recently received by **Thomas Yorio, PhD**, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and vice president for research, to study the effects of topical drug treatment on glaucoma. An overview of the grant was presented along with information about the condition and quotes from Dr. Yorio. ★

New eating habits, consistent exercise path to good health for ITS support specialist

When Don Seher, computer user support specialist in Information Technology Services, is not playing the acoustic guitar, mandolin and bass in his Christian “newgrass” band, he is concentrating on his new healthy lifestyle, which includes exercise and recipe experimentation.

Seher, who has been with the health science center for more than eight years, recently changed his eating habits by incorporating some of the South Beach Diet guidelines and has lost over 20 pounds so far.

“I don’t just limit myself to the South Beach Diet recipes,” he said. “I follow its concepts as I am changing my eating habits.”

Seher said he takes advantage of the Founders’ Activity Center and the HealthSaver Program, which allows benefits-eligible employees to participate in approved physical activity programs for up to 90 minutes of work time per week, to get his workouts in during the day.

“The HealthSaver Program permits me to work out during the day, which raises my energy level for the rest of the day,” Seher said. “I’m thankful that my supervisor permits me to utilize the FAC during the day. It’s also encourag-



Don Seher, computer user support specialist, said working out during his lunch hour increases his energy level for the rest of the day.

ing that my coworkers take advantage of this program,” he added.

Seher has been a member at the FAC for several years. “I don’t remember when I first started attending the FAC,” he said, “[but] I started a couple of years before we started paying, and I have made more use of the FAC since. I don’t like to waste money, even if it is only \$5 per month.”

Putting his monthly fee to good use, Seher has been even more consistent and dedicated since the New Year, jogging and circuit training his way to better health.

“I have wanted to reduce my cholesterol and triglycerides and lose weight for several years,” he said. “I finally became dedicated to this goal at the start of 2006.” ★

Sleep clinic opening

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researchers who study the effects of sleep apnea on the body and its functions.

“We have been eager to open this new Sleep Diagnostic Center for some time now,” Dr. Al-Farra said.

“I’m looking forward to the great

work that we can accomplish treating sleep disorders and learning more about them,” he said.

A grand opening program and open house will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Guests will also be

able to take a look at the state-of-the-art facility and set up appointments at the new center.

The new center is located at 3632 Modlin Ave. in Fort Worth. Call 817-732-4428 for more information. ★

Local magazine survey names 19 HSC physicians 'Top Docs'

Nineteen faculty members from the health science center were named Top Docs for 2006 in the April issue of *Fort Worth, Texas* magazine.

"We are proud of the accomplishments of our entire faculty," said Marc Hahn, DO, dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, "but to have such a large number of our faculty recognized as 'Top Docs' demonstrates the world-class status of Fort Worth's medical school's faculty."

For the survey, *Fort Worth, Texas* magazine polls local doctors who select the doctors they think are the best in the area. The poll this year was based on the membership of the Tarrant County Medical Association, the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association and the Tarrant County Medical Society.

Health science center doctors named as Top Docs this year were:

Jennifer Alexander, DO, assistant professor of internal medicine. Dr. Alexander, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the internal medicine category.

Ralph Anderson, MD, assistant professor and chair of obstetrics and gynecology. Dr. Anderson, who practices at the JPS Health Center for Women, was named a Top Doc in the gynecological oncology category.

Barbara Atkinson, DO, associate professor of internal medicine and chief of the infectious disease division. Dr. Atkinson, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the infectious disease category.

Sam Buchanan, DO, associate professor of surgery. Dr. Buchanan, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the general surgery category.

Kathleen Crowley, MD, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr. Crowley, who practices at the JPS Health Center for Women, was named a Top Doc in the internal medicine category.

Janice Knebl, DO, MBA, Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc. Distinguished Chair of Clinical Geriatrics, professor of internal medicine and chief of the geriatrics division. Dr. Knebl, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the geriatrics category.

David Lichtman, MD, associate professor and chair of orthopaedics. Dr. Lichtman, who practices at John Peter Smith Hospital, was named a Top Doc in the surgical orthopaedic category.

Salvatore LoCoco, MD, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology. Dr. LoCoco, who practices at the JPS Health Center for Women, was named a Top Doc in the gynecological oncology category.

William McIntosh, DO, associate professor of internal medicine and chief of the neurology division. Dr. McIntosh, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the neurology category.

David Orr, DO, assistant professor of internal medicine in the neurology division. Dr. Orr, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the neurology category.

Frank Papa, DO, PhD, assistant dean for curricular design and educational technologies. Dr. Papa was named a Top Doc in the emergency care category.

Bernard Rubin, DO, MPH, professor of internal medicine and chief of the rheumatology division. Dr. Rubin, who practices in the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the rheumatology category.

Mark Sanders, DO, JD, MPH, assistant professor of family medicine and director of the inpatient hospice facility and the palliative care fellowship for Universal Health Services. Dr. Sanders, who practices at the Patient Care Center and through Universal Health Services to provide geriatric home healthcare, was named a Top Doc in the internal medicine category.

Phillip Saperstein, DO, professor of family medicine and program director of the family practice residency program at Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth. Dr. Saperstein, who practices at the Seminary Clinic, was named a Top Doc in the general family practice category.

Frederick Schaller, DO, associate professor of cardiology. Dr. Schaller, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the cardiology category.

Craig Spellman, PhD, DO, associate professor of internal medicine and chief of the endocrinology division. Dr. Spellman, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the endocrinology category.

Monte Troutman, DO, associate professor of internal medicine and chair of the gastroenterology division. Dr. Troutman, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the gastroenterology category.

Stephen Weis, DO, professor of internal medicine in the endocrinology division. Dr. Weis, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the internal medicine category.

Martin Weiss, DO, assistant professor of internal medicine in the division of cardiology. Dr. Weiss, who practices at the Patient Care Center, was named a Top Doc in the cardiology category. ★

Shores retires, joins new medical school in Canada

Jay Shores, PhD, saw the beginnings of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and stayed through its development into a health science center, but after more than 27 years, he retired at the end of March to take up a new beginning in Canada.

Dr. Shores helped develop the curricula of the medical school and write a document that set out the purpose of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. He will be doing similar work for Northern Ontario School of Medicine in Thunder Bay, Canada, as he helps start a medical school in one of the northernmost provinces of Ontario, Canada.

"I'm 63 years old, and I thought it was time to make a change," Dr. Shores said.

Dr. Shores, who retired from the health science center as director of faculty development and instructional technology and associate professor of education, is the director of assessment and evaluation and a professor in the human sciences division of the new institution.

He has been working with the new school since last summer as a consultant and visiting professor, and his first official day will be May 1.

"I'm very happy to have been here," Dr. Shores said. "A whole host of people have committed themselves



Thomas Fairchild (left), PhD, associate vice president for institutional planning and performance improvement, and Warren Anderson (center), acting senior vice president for academic affairs and dean of the School of Health Professions, wish Dr. Shores well at his retirement reception March 29.

to the priority of excellent education for the students and the institution. It's been a pleasure to work with folks who are so committed to having a high quality program. That's what makes it a worthwhile place."

Dr. Shores began his career teaching sixth grade. He later moved into teaching undergraduates and finally to teaching medical students. In 2000

and 2002, he won the George W. Northrup, DO, Medical Writing Award from the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*.

A native of Illinois, Dr. Shores and his wife, Gail Ellen, are in the process of moving the 1,335 miles to Canada, but said they intend to keep their home in Texas. "We do plan to be snowbirds," Dr. Shores said. ★



Hank Lemke, MMS, PA-C, director of the Physician Assistant Studies Program, invited Captain Epiphano Elizondo (left), PhD, of the U.S. Public Health Service, to speak to the introductory PA course students about his experiences as a senior public health service officer and coordinator of relief services in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina. Capt Elizondo also shared some of his experiences as a physician assistant in the Public Health Service during his guest lecture April 4.

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

GSBS student named Grass Fellow

Joshua Gatson, MS, doctoral candidate in pharmacology and neuroscience, was recently awarded a Grass Fellowship at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass.

"I applied first of all just to get more exposure in how research is conducted in academia," Gatson said. "In the Grass Fellowship, you actually go in as an independent investigator. I wouldn't go into the program as a PhD student or a postdoctoral student, but more as a new faculty member. All of my work will be independent."

As part of his application, Gatson wrote a grant proposal for the Grass Foundation to outline his course of research during the fellowship period.

In his proposal, Gatson hypothesized that the androgen receptor forms a complex with the estrogen receptor and blocks the survival-promoting effects of estrogen.

Research has shown that estrogen protects the brain against injury. According to Gatson, if more of the androgen receptor binds to the estrogen receptor, the androgen receptor blocks the neuroprotective effects of estrogen, which would mean that estrogen treatment may not help people with high levels of androgen or high androgen receptor levels. His research this summer will work on this hypothesis.

"There are very few studies that look at the effects of androgens in various disease states in the brain," Gatson said. "Since very little attention has been focused on androgens in the brain, that can be a positive as well as a negative.

"The good thing about pursuing this area of research is that I can open



Joshua Gatson, MS, doctoral candidate in pharmacology and neuroscience, has been awarded a Grass Fellowship. He will perform independent research into how androgens can impact the protective effects of estrogen this summer at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass.

the door and describe the importance of androgens during various disease states," he said.

"The negative side to studying androgens in the brain is that very little information has been published on androgen action in the brain, so I have to try to figure out the ins and outs," he said. "This research that I do this summer should shed some light on the role of the androgen

receptor as well as testosterone with respect to neuro-protection."

Gatson will begin his Grass Fellowship May 21 and remain at the Marine Biological Laboratory until Aug. 26.

Gatson earned his master's degree in microbiology and immunology at the health science center in spring 2003. He has been active in campus events and has served as Black Graduate Student Association president for two years and vice president for two years. He has also been active in the Graduate Student Association, and he has worked with Fort Worth ISD high school students as a

Schools' Cooperative Opportunities for Resources and Education (SCORE) fellow for three years.

Gatson works under the supervision of Meharvan Singh, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience. He is the second health science center student in pharmacology and neuroscience to be named a Grass Fellow; Eric Gonzales, PhD, GSBS 2005, was a Grass Fellow in 2004. ★

Institutional Advancement

Advancement VP announces retirement

Cheryl Kimberling, PhD, vice president for institutional advancement, has announced that she will “graduate from full-time state employment” at the end of May. Dr. Kimberling, who came to the health science center in October 2002, said she is planning to begin an academic research agenda, travel more and take advantage of consulting and teaching opportunities.

Dr. Kimberling described her decision to retire as “bittersweet.”

“I had followed the evolution of Fort Worth’s medical school into a major center of learning and discovery for more than two decades before I worked here, and I am extremely proud to have been part of this institution at such a landmark time in its growth and success,” she said.

“Generations of educators and students will reap the harvest of the work of Dr. Kimberling and her staff,” said Daniel Perugini, DO, executive vice president.

During Dr. Kimberling’s time at the health science center, the UNTHSC Foundation board of directors has been increased from seven members to 25, including the presidents of all four of the health science center’s alumni organizations who now serve as voting members during their terms in office.



Cheryl Kimberling, PhD

Standing committees for investments, policies and procedures, and fundraising have also been formed, and the Foundation’s investment portfolio has grown from \$4,200,000 in 2002 to \$7,210,872 as of the end of 2005.

Fundraising campaigns during Dr. Kimberling’s tenure included the 2003 President’s Ball, which netted \$100,000; the 2004 Campus Pride Campaign, which garnered \$340,000 in gifts and pledges to assist in the finish-out of the Center for BioHealth; and the TCOM 35th Birthday Gala in 2005, which netted more than \$135,000.

As executive director of the UNTHSC Foundation, Dr. Kimberling also oversaw the health science center’s first capital campaign, an effort to raise money from local sources for the Center for BioHealth. To date, more than \$1.8 million in gifts and pledges have been secured.

“Dr. Kimberling is well-known in Fort Worth’s academic and philanthropic circles,” said Janet Zipperlen, director of development communications. “She introduced the health science center to a lot of influential people, many of whom have become first-time donors. Dr. Kimberling laid vital groundwork for our continued success.”

Before joining the health science center, Dr. Kimberling was director of development at the University of Texas at Arlington, where her emphasis was on planned giving and major gifts. Before that, she was director of external relations for the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law and executive director of the Friends of Tarrant County Junior College Foundation.

A native of Memphis, Tenn., Dr. Kimberling graduated from the University of Memphis with a master’s in education and earned a master’s in religious education from Southwestern Seminary. She completed her doctoral degree at the University of North Texas. ★

2005 donor report shows increase in giving

More than 800 individuals and organizations made donations totaling over \$2.8 million to UNTHSC Foundation accounts during the 2005 calendar year, according to the Foundation’s recently published donor report. This amount exceeds 2004 giving totals by almost \$900,000.

For the second year in a row, the Foundation’s annual report was pub-

lished as a special insert in the *Fort Worth Business Press*, which has a readership of approximately 47,500. The 16-page “Report to Our Community & Investors” was published in the April 10 issue of the weekly newspaper, which had a special editorial focus on health and wellness.

The annual report features commentaries from Foundation board

members Rosie Moncrief, Jack Jackson and Bill Jordan, DO, in support of the health science center, an update on the Center for BioHealth and a review of 2005 health science center achievements and news.

Copies of the report will be mailed to all health science center alumni and distributed through campus mail to all employees. ★

Institutional Advancement

HSC welcomes new Foundation board members

The UNTHSC Foundation Board of Directors will introduce five new members at its meeting on campus April 26, bringing the total number of directors to 25.

The foundation, created in 1978 by The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine's founders, is a nonprofit organization that has the health science center as its sole beneficiary. Community leaders, business professionals and alumni serve without compensation on the Foundation's Board of Directors as advocates and fundraisers, working closely with the Office of Institutional Advancement, the health science center president and other institutional leaders.

They assist in cultivating donors to health science center programs and special projects and help create and monitor investment and spending policies for the foundation's endowed and designated funds. Among the board's current projects is the identification of local donors to help finish out the second, fourth and sixth floors of the Center for BioHealth.

The new board members, who will serve three-year terms, are Kay Cox, vice president of corporate human resources for Alcon Laboratories; Arnie Gachman, president of Gachman Metals and Recycling; Lisa Jamieson, JD, a partner in Bruner, Jamieson and Pappas; William Jordan, DO, president of The Center for Cancer and Blood Dis-

orders; and Joe Maly, vice president of Hillwood Properties, which is the developer of Alliance Texas®.

Mary Palko, civic leader and CEO of Palmea Inc., is chair of the board,

Worth Business Press; John Gavin, president of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex Community Banking Market for Wells Fargo Bank; Paul Greenwell, vice president of Luther King Capital Man-



Kay Cox



Arnie Gachman



Lisa Jamieson, JD



William Jordan, DO



Joe Maly

and Robert Fernandez, CPA, president of Fernandez & Company CPAs, is vice chair. George Pepper, president of George W. Pepper Investments and a former UNT System regent, is the treasurer, and Jack Jackson, plant manager of the Miller Brewing Company's Fort Worth brewery, is the secretary.

Other members include Mark Baker, DO, TCOM 1976, president of North Texas Radiology; Richard Connor, editor and publisher of the *Fort*

agement; Allan Howeth, JD, a partner in Cantey & Hanger, LLP; Chris Hull, DO, TCOM 1979, president of Fort Worth Orthopedic Surgery & Sports Medicine; Robert Lansford, senior vice president of JP Morgan; Rosie Moncrief, community volunteer and business and property manager; Darlene Ryan, MBA, CPA, president of PharmaFab; Joe Thompson, senior vice president of TXU Electric Delivery; Naresh Vashist, president of Omimex

Energy; and Stanley Weiss, DO, an occupational medicine consultant and former member of the TCOM faculty.

The presidents of the health science center's four alumni organizations also serve on the foundation board of directors during their terms of office (Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 each year). Currently serving are Jami Kern, PhD, GSBS 2002; Stan Kotara, PA-C, PA 2001; Ray Morrison, DO, TCOM 1986; and Amy Raines, MPH, SPH 1998. ★

School of Public Health

SPH, UNT offer new dual master's degree

The health science center and UNT Denton have collaborated on a new dual master's degree program in Applied Anthropology and Public Health. The new program is available to public health master's students in the community health concentration at the health science center and students in the applied anthropology master's program at UNT Denton.

Lisa Henry, PhD, assistant professor and director of graduate studies in anthropology at UNT Denton, is the program director and advisor for anthropology students. Sue Lurie,

PhD, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, is the main advisor for public health students.

The new program combines community health and applied anthropology curricula. The dual degree students will take 27 hours in anthropology and 36 hours in public health, for a total of 63 credit hours, and complete an SPH practicum portfolio. The culminating experience comprises the capstone course and professional report.

"This program offers a welcome opportunity to strengthen collaboration in public health, anthropology, and

social science research and practice, for the shared goals of improving health and social justice to eliminate local and global disparities, Dr. Lurie said.

"The Department of Applied Anthropology is excited about the collaboration with the School of Public Health," Dr. Henry said. "Our medical anthropology students are trained to use anthropological theory and methods in addressing a wide range of public health programs. With the dual degree, they are now getting a balanced education from both fields of study – both with the goal of improving health." ★

SPH students get career advice from public health professionals

SPH students recently got tips on networking, internships and options for careers in public health at the annual Public Health Career Forum.

The Office of Student Development, in cooperation with the School of Public Health, sponsored the forum on campus March 6 to offer students and alumni an opportunity to learn more about pursuing a career in public health.

Panelists from a variety of health organizations from around the Metroplex, including the Health and Human Services Administration, The University of Texas School of Public Health, the City of Grand Prairie, Tarrant County Public Health Department, the City of Fort Worth, Parkland Health and Hospital System, and the U.S. Public Health Service, gave insight into how their institutions

work and explained how to pursue careers with their organizations.

The career forum provided an opportunity for public health master's and doctoral students to network and learn about different career options for their concentrations, which include biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, community health, occupational health practice, clinical research, social and behavioral sciences, and health management and policy.

The panelists were:

- Kirk Barnes, MA, public health analyst, Health and Human Services Administration;
- Craig Field, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of health promotion and behavioral sciences, University of Texas School of Public Health;
- Sonja Johnson, MPH, SPH 2000, environmental health manager,

City of Grand Prairie;

- Santos Navarrette Jr., MA, MBA, associate director of environmental health and disease control, Tarrant County Public Health Department;
- Amy Raines, MPH, SPH 1998, team leader for community health and outreach, City of Fort Worth Public Health Department;
- Brad Walsh, MPH, senior strategic planner, Parkland Health and Hospital System; and
- Diahann Williams, MHS, senior staff health insurance specialist, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Public Health Service.

Participating vendors included Mike Yudzky, EMT-P, public health educator for the North Texas Poison Center, and Donald Meuhr, a tech sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. ★

Faculty Advances

Rafael Alvarez-Gonzalez, PhD, associate professor of molecular biology and immunology, participated in a National Institutes of Health special review panel that met March 7 in Bethesda, Md. to evaluate curriculum change applications submitted in response to the "Biology and Mathematics 2010 Report" issued by the National Research Council in 2005.

Fred Downey, PhD, Regents Professor, and **Robert Mallet, PhD**, associate professor, both of integrative physiology, are co-authors of the article "Role of Nitric Oxide in Cardiovascular Adaptation to Intermittent Hypoxia" published in the April issue of *Experimental Biology and Medicine*. **Eugenia Manukhina, PhD**, professor, Institute of General Pathology and Pathophysiology in Moscow, Russia, is first author.

Michael Gatch, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, is first author of the paper "Effects of monoamine oxidase inhibitors on cocaine discrimination in rats" published in the March issue of *Behavioural Pharmacology*. **Cynthia Taylor**, senior research assistant; **Elva Flores**, research assistant; **Meghan Selvig**, research assistant; and **Michael Forster, PhD**, professor, all of pharmacology and neuroscience, are co-authors.

David Lichtman, MD, chair of orthopaedic surgery, and **Eric Wroten, MD**, former resident in orthopaedic surgery, published "Understanding Midcarpal Instability" in the March issue of *The Journal of Hand Surgery*.

Sue Gena Lurie, PhD, assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences, chaired the session "Is Homelessness Chronic?" and presented a paper, "Social Suffering in Disasters and Chronic Homelessness" at the Society for Applied Anthropology and Society for Medical Anthropology annual meetings April 1 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Robert Mallet, PhD, associate professor of integrative physiology, presented the seminar "Hypoxia Conditioning: A Novel Strategy to Prevent Cardiac Injury During Heart Attack" March 27 to the chemistry department at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. **Dr. Mallet** has also been elected as a fellow of the American Physiological Society, Cardiovascular Section.

Jotam Pasipanodya, MHSM, MBCHB, public health doctoral student and research fellow in internal medicine, pre-

sented two research posters to the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease 2006 North American Meeting March 2 in Chicago, Ill. The first poster, "TB Economic Decision-support (TB EDS) Tool," was co-authored by **Thaddeus Miller, MPH**, public health doctoral student and research fellow in internal medicine; **Scott McNabb, PhD**, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; **Nita Patel, MPH**, prevention specialist in internal medicine; and **Stephen Weis, DO**, professor of internal medicine. The second poster, "Pulmonary Dysfunction Secondary to Treated Tuberculosis," was co-authored by **Miller; Mauricio Vecino, MD**, clinical research assistant in internal medicine; **Sejong Bae, PhD**, associate professor of biostatistics, Robert Garmon, DO, private practice; **Guadalupe Munguia, MD, MPH**, instructor in internal medicine; and **Dr. Weis. Pasipanodya** and **Miller** also met with public health leaders from Denver, San Francisco, Orange County and the California Department of Health in February to demonstrate the application of a new tool that provides economic guidance to public health departments.

Myoung-Gwi Ryou, MS, doctoral student in integrative physiology, presented the report "Intermittent hypoxic conditioning suppresses nitric oxide production upon myocardial reperfusion" at the Experimental Biology meeting April 3 in San Francisco, Calif. **Pu Zong, MD**, former postdoctoral fellow, **Jie Sun**, senior science associate, **Fred Downey, PhD**, Regents Professor, and **Robert Mallet, PhD**, associate professor, all of integrative physiology, are co-authors.

Meharvan "Sonny" Singh, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology and neuroscience, is senior author of the paper "Dihydrotestosterone Differentially Modulates the MAPK and the PI-3 Kinase/Akt Pathways Through the Nuclear and Novel Membrane Androgen Receptor in C6 Cells," published in the April issue of *Endocrinology*. **Joshua Gatson**, doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience, is first author, and **Paramjit Kaur**, TCOM 2009 and doctoral student in pharmacology and neuroscience, is a co-author.

Martha Stokely, PhD, research scientist in pharmacology and neuroscience, co-chaired an oral presentation session at the American Society for Neurochemistry's 37th national meeting, Late Breaking Abstracts, March 11-15 in Portland, Ore. **Dr. Stokely** was also appointed as the new deputy chair of the American Society for Neurochemistry's Standing Rules Committee. ★