

NORTH TEXAS HEALTH & SCIENCE

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**Closing the 17-year discovery- to-
delivery gap, pg. 4**

**Ready to treat patients where
care is needed most, pg. 10**

**Student's passion: Making patient
safety systematic, pg. 8**

Message *from* the President



We often talk about the extraordinary advances medical science is making in treating disease. But there is a force even more powerful – prevention. The late Irish surgeon Denis Burkitt put it this way: “Diseases can rarely be eliminated through early diagnosis or good treatment, but prevention can eliminate disease.”

In this issue of North Texas Health & Science, you’ll read about the Health Science Center’s newest research center, the Texas Prevention Institute, which leads the way in embracing this concept.

You’ll learn about our outreach librarians, who teach the community how to find reliable medical information, and about Lisa Hodge, PhD, who is studying the impact of osteopathic manipulative medicine on patients’ immune systems.

Then there’s the remarkable story of Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) alumna Anne Alaniz (DO, ‘04), who was living in an African village until a benefactor brought her to the United States to attend medical school. Now Alaniz is building a clinic to address health issues at home.

We’ll tell you about Cole Zanetti, fourth-year TCOM student, who is earning national awards for his passionate fight to improve patient safety. You’ll get to know three more students – Julie Leber, Misty Nobles and Alesha Shaver – recipients of prestigious National Health Service Corps scholarships. They have committed to practice in underserved areas for two to four years.

All of them, in their own way, are working to prevent disease. They help the UNT Health Science Center to create solutions for a healthier community – in Fort Worth and beyond.

Scott B. Ransom, DO, MBA, MPH



CONTENT

Executive Editor:

Jean Tips (jean.tips@unthsc.edu)

Managing Editor:

Cari Hyden (cari.hyden@unthsc.edu)

Production Manager:

Amy Buresh (amy.buresh@unthsc.edu)

Contributors:

Dana Benton Russell (dana.russell@unthsc.edu)

Sally Crocker (sally.crocker@unthsc.edu)

Nicole Lyons (nicole.lyons@unthsc.edu)

Randy Sachs (randy.sachs@unthsc.edu)

Monica Skaggs

Photography:

Deborah Brashear (deborah.brashear@unthsc.edu)

Dana Benton Russell (dana.russell@unthsc.edu)

Jeremy Enlow - Steel Shutter Photography

Tommy Hawkes (tommy.hawkes@unthsc.edu)

Art direction and design:

Carl Bluemel (carl.bluemel@unthsc.edu)

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UNT Health Science Center

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd.

Fort Worth, TX 76107

Phone 817.735.5190

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Recipients of prestigious
NHSC scholarships.
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UNT | **HEALTH**
SCIENCE CENTER

17 years from medical discovery
to medical practice?

Too long, according to Texas Prevention Institute

In 1994 Schindler's List won an Academy Award, Major League Baseball called a strike and the first Netscape Navigator web browser was released.

And any medical research advances discovered then probably have just now reached the market, 17 years later. If that timeframe persists, discoveries made today won't be available until 2028.

Most believe this nearly two-decade lag is far too long, and the federal government agrees. So does the UNT Health Science Center.

Enter the Texas Prevention Institute (TPI).

The new institute combines UNTHSC's Center for Community Health, Primary Care Research Institute and the Texas Center for Health Disparities. Forging their strengths into a single unit has created a rich blend of research scientists, health practitioners, public health experts and health promotion specialists who can address health care from the petri





The TPI “brings together the infrastructure capacity for investigators and staff to conduct more research that spans the entire spectrum. It strengthens our ability to sustain the work we are doing. The end result is that we’ll be able to make a difference in the lives of the people who live in this area.”

~ Kathryn Cardarelli

J.K. Vishwanatha, PhD; Kathryn Cardarelli, PhD, MPH ('99); and Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH ('01)

TPI at a Glance

The Texas Prevention Institute, led by Mark DeHaven, PhD, professor, is dedicated to innovative translational research focusing on primary care and chronic disease prevention. It combines these Health Institutes of Texas:

- Center for Community Health – promotes partnerships across multiple disciplines to conduct relevant health research and enhance the community’s capacity for preventive health
- Primary Care Research Institute – conducts primary care and public health research while educating primary care practitioners
- Texas Center for Health Disparities – dedicated to eliminating health disparities through basic science research, education and community relations

The TPI integrates the expertise and research capacity of these entities into a continuum spanning community-based, clinical and basic science research.

Factors contributing to the greater incidence of chronic disease and health disparities often extend beyond traditional medicine, challenging researchers to use methods compatible with the culture of those more at risk.

The TPI uses community-based participatory research methods as well as traditional clinical and basic science research to develop risk-reduction programs that can be used anywhere.

TPI investigators are testing ways to incorporate research findings into everyday best practices – in primary care and community settings – to prevent disease and reduce health disparities.

Texas Conference on Health Disparities

The Texas Center for Health Disparities, one component of the Texas Prevention Institute, will focus on eye diseases at its sixth annual conference, An Eye Towards the Future, June 16-17 at the UNT Health Science Center.

Sessions will cover glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and diabetes-related eye diseases.

The event is sponsored by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the North Texas Eye Research Institute, the Texas Prevention Institute and the UNT Health Science Center. It is designed for anyone interested in helping eliminate health disparities or serving those affected by health disparities, such as scientists, public health professionals, health policy and community leaders, health educators, news media representatives and students.

For information, visit www.hsc.unt.edu/departments/HealthDisparities/Conference%202010.cfm



Creating Solutions for Health Equity



Mark DeHaven, PhD, professor of Family Medicine, leads the Texas Prevention Institute.

dish to the physician to the public to preventing disease in the first place.

Put simply, TPI “will cover health care from the cell to the clinic to the community,” said Mark DeHaven, PhD, TPI director and professor of Family Medicine.

DeHaven also is director of the innovative GoodNEWS program, which has helped South Dallas residents adopt a healthier lifestyle by training “lay health promoters” in black churches to teach healthy practices to their congregations. The program has worked so well that it spawned a community gardening effort. It’s just one example of DeHaven’s lifelong dedication to the concept of “community medicine.”

Consistent with “translational research,” community medicine is designed to deliver advances made at the molecular level to patients quickly by bringing all disciplines together, as the Texas Prevention Institute has done.

Now the National Institutes of Health (NIH), responding to pressure from Congress to shorten the time between discovery and implementation, is expanding research emphasis with its Clinical and Translational Science Awards program.

“By creating the Texas Prevention Institute, we have developed a collaborative way to link these entities in a way that’s consistent with the NIH direction,” DeHaven said.

“This allows us to develop an even more proactive, responsive approach to the needs of the Fort Worth community and throughout the Metroplex. We can investigate individual problems our community has, put programs in place, treat people and educate the public. Under this model, the Health Science Center is not separated from the community, but integrated.

“We don’t have a one-way flow of information, it’s a two-way flow. We listen to the community to drive our research.”

Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH (’01), leads the Primary Care Research Institute (PCRI), one of the TPI components, and he supports the change.

“The Health Science Center has been doing well in community research and clinical research, and the basic sciences have had tremendous success in a lot of areas,” he said. “This helps us create sustainable programs and research, and to break down silo walls. This is a big effort and will develop into a national model on how to do meaningful research.”

The TPI formalizes the collaborative relationship the PCRI has had with the Texas Center for Health Disparities, another TPI entity, led by J.K. Vishwanatha, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Vishwanatha’s center helps support several research, education, training and outreach programs throughout UNTHSC.

“There have always been a lot of synergies between the Texas Center for Health Disparities and the Center for Community Health (CCH),” Vishwanatha said. “This will allow us to better take advantage of those synergies.”

Kathryn Cardarelli, PhD, MPH (’99), an associate professor who heads the CCH, agrees.

“The beauty of the TPI is that it brings together the components so we can conduct truly translational research,” she said. “What I’m most excited about is that the TPI brings together the infrastructure capacity for investigators and staff to conduct more research that spans the entire spectrum. It strengthens our ability to sustain the work we are doing. The end result is that we’ll be able to make a difference in the lives of the people who live in this area.”

New thinking has long been needed, DeHaven said.

“It’s a paradox of medical care,” he said, “that the more we spend on health care, the sicker we get. We are perpetuating the problem instead of cutting off the causes. We invest \$28 billion per year in national health research funding – how has that improved the lives of Americans? An answer in terms of a demonstrable effect on reducing disease prevalence just isn’t there.

“We can bring people here, educate them, treat diseases, work with the sub-specialties here, refer people for clinical care and involve the community in our efforts. We already have all the programs here – my job is to knit them together.”

~ Mark DeHaven

“We have a disease-care system in the United States, not a health care system. We wait until the diagnosis and treatment phase to begin health care. The community has been divorced from the process. Clinical research should address problems of importance to the community.”

As one institute, the three entities that compose TPI now have the critical mass to develop the core funding needed to improve health locally and beyond, DeHaven said. And the public has a role to play.

“We can’t do this without the support of the community,” he said. “It’s a vision that needs the support of other visionaries – people who are involved in the city of Fort Worth and recognize that improving overall health makes the city a better place to live and benefits lives. We are building models that can be replicated and generalized elsewhere but that are designed to benefit the community in which we work.”

His dream is to build a “health care continuum.”

“We can bring people here, educate them, treat diseases, work with the sub-specialties here, refer people for clinical care and involve the community in our efforts. We already have all the programs here – my job is to knit them together.”

This all fits well with the Health Science Center’s strategic emphasis on primary care and prevention.

“That’s exactly what the TPI is designed to do, to serve as a single focal point for this goal – to be a leader and accountable for that initiative,” DeHaven said.

“We are bringing the best of what the Health Science Center does into people’s lives.”

Change agent: Inspired by grandmother,

“When I was in the program, I realized how amazing it is to develop long-term relationships with patients and help coordinate their care.”

~ Cole Zanetti

Cole Zanetti (TCOM '11), named Student Health Activist of the Year

student fights for patient safety

It started long before Nanna became ill.

Cole Zanetti had always been an advocate for patient safety, and two organizations named him Student Health Activist of the Year recently for good reason. But when his grandmother was admitted to a noted New York hospital, he saw for himself how safety issues can affect a loved one.

He became anguished that his medical knowledge was not enough to prevent missteps by well-meaning practitioners before his grandmother died.

Each of her four doctors interpreted her condition differently. She was transferred to four hospital rooms in four weeks, and once she went without a key medication for three days. When Zanetti's mother visited one afternoon, she found Nanna in pain, seated in a chair, with her nurse-call button out of reach.

Now Zanetti is making headlines with a passionate call for action.

A columnist for MedPage Today, an online medical news service, quoted Zanetti's remarks at the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Patient Safety and Quality Leadership Institute. AMSA is one of the organizations naming him Student Health Activist of the Year; the other is the American Public Health Association.

"As medical students, we are observers of various health care systems," Zanetti said at the gathering. "We go from one hospital to the next, staying only long enough to understand it and then moving on. We see some processes that work well and some that are appallingly ineffective.

"How can medical students and health care professionals stand by watching as our patients are subjected to inadequate systems? We need to go back to our medical school and help create opportunities for others to understand the impact of our failed system ... and our responsibility for due diligence. We need to change our archaic customs and move forward, acknowledging our patients' need for health care delivery redesign."

Zanetti (TCOM '11) believes it a "moral imperative" for students to advocate for a medical education system that integrates patient safety and system improvement. He himself is working with TCOM leaders to bolster patient safety in the school's curriculum.

Zanetti became interested in medicine in high school when he was accepted for an honors program that let him attend college one year early and shadow health care professionals.

"I wanted to go into cancer research at the time, but this program was the only thing that was in the health care field available to me," he said. "When I was in the program, I realized how amazing it is to develop long-term relationships with patients and help coordinate their care."

He enrolled in the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine because "it's the flagship for primary care."

And he believes medical errors are an ethics issue and the result of a malfunctioning system. His goal: to be a "change inducer."

"You hear about putting something under a microscope," he said, "but I'd like to invent a macroscope. The community itself as an organization needs to be treated as well."

The good news is that proactive efforts are already under way. The Association of American Medical Colleges is launching its "Integrating Quality" program aimed at emphasizing quality and patient safety improvement throughout medical education.

Zanetti will be ready to do his part.

He seeks a combined residency in family and preventive medicine at Dartmouth College, where he would earn a master's degree in public health concentrating on quality, health system design and patient safety.

"I hope that within the very near future we acknowledge the patient safety issue and make it the priority it is," he said.

No doubt Zanetti will do his share. And no doubt about this, too: Nanna would be proud.

Ready to practice in areas of need

Recall the 1990s television series *Northern Exposure* about a fictional New York physician lured into practicing in a rural Alaska town. He provided much-needed medical care but experienced several fish-out-of-water clashes with the local culture and quirky patients.

The series was based somewhat on reality: Since 1972, the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) has paid to educate carefully chosen medical professionals, who in turn agree to practice in rural and inner-city areas for two to four years. Recipients receive full tuition and a small stipend while in school.

Some 6,400 apply each year. Only 250 are chosen. This year, three are from the UNT Health Science Center.

Physician Assistant students believe they will gain as much as they give

Misty Nobles and Alesha Shaver will begin their service immediately after completing their Physician Assistant Studies degrees, and they look forward to learning from the experience.

“I’m not afraid to work in an underserved area,” Nobles (PAS ’13) said. “The more I am exposed to challenges, the more it will make me a better clinician.” While she could do NHSC practice anywhere in the United States, she prefers an underserved area of Texas so “I can give back where I grew up.”

Shaver (PAS ’12) meanwhile, always knew she wanted a job where she could make a difference.

“Everyone feels like that at some point, or they wouldn’t be doing what they do,” she said. “But when you see patients who haven’t seen a doctor in four years, you’re all they’ve got.”

“Practicing in a small town, you become more than the physician assistant – you become a teacher, parent, recreation leader, the person they can talk to. You do house visits. People show you their toe with gout in the grocery store. That might

be too much information, but I get a joy out of doing it.”

Nobles also looks forward to multiple roles.

“I want to teach people, not just hand them a prescription,” she said. She knew she wanted to work in medicine but wasn’t sure which direction to take after earning her undergraduate degree in biology. She had considered pharmacy and worked as a pharmacy tech for six years, but no, not enough interaction with people.

When Nobles shadowed a physician assistant, she knew she’d found a career. “I loved it. I felt like it was my calling.”

Osteopathic medicine’s approach ideal for the program

Julie Leber (TCOM ’14) always wanted to work in an underserved area. That’s partly why she enrolled in the Health Science Center’s Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

“I knew I wanted to study osteopathic medicine, and I knew I wanted to live in the South,” she said. “It will never be a perfect world, but it’s worthwhile to chip away at individual injustices, and perhaps the greatest way to do that is with sincere respect for every single person unconditionally. Osteopathic medicine weaves that into medicine in a profound way. An osteopathic physician is taught to improve physical health and realize the impact that physicality has on the greater emotional and spiritual fullness of a person.”

Leber chose TCOM’s ROME (Rural Osteopathic Medical Education) program in preparation for work in an underserved area. “It’s something I’m drawn to doing, and this just felt right.”

She had volunteered at an inner-city school tutoring high school girls and enjoyed “seeing what we could bring to each others’ lives.” She wants to carry the spirit of mutual contribution into her medical practice.

When practice begins

The real rewards (and, some might say, adventures) await after graduation. Leber, Nobles and Shaver anticipate adjustments will be necessary, just as the character in the television show had to adapt to his new environment. They say it will be worth the effort. Here's their take:

Shaver: "This probably will be the hardest two years of my life, but it will also benefit so many people. Even if I only touch 1,000 people – that's still 1,000 people."

Nobles: "Primary health care is challenging and constantly evolving with different situations, needs and changes. I look forward to solving the challenges presented to me on a daily basis and interacting with the community I came to serve."

Leber: "There are so many problems in the world, and we'll never solve them all. I'll have something to dedicate my life to, to keep working on, even if the disparities are never completely fixed. It's OK that it's imperfect; I will always be able to continue to work towards it."



Julie Leber, Misty Nobles and Alesha Shaver earned prestigious National Health Service Corps scholarships and will practice in underserved areas.



Hodge receives \$1.4 million to study osteopathic manipulative medicine

The coat was too big and the sleeves dangled. But as a child, Lisa Hodge was determined to wear her mother's white nursing lab coat to elementary school Career Day.

"Everyone asked me what I wanted to be," she recalled. "I said 'a research scientist.'"

For as long as she can remember, Hodge has been fascinated by how things work.

"And yes, having a nurse for a mother and an engineer for a father helped," she said. "Dad instilled the logic and empirical side to my personality, and mom inspired me to help people."

The dream is now reality for Hodge, PhD ('01), Osteopathic Heritage Basic Science Research Chair at the national Osteopathic Research Center (ORC) on the Health Science Center campus. She and

her team are exploring the underlying mechanisms of osteopathic lymphatic pump treatment and its impact on a patient's immune system.

Hodge recently received a \$324,000 grant for her project – entitled "Mechanisms of Lymphatic Pump Enhancement of Immune Function" – from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM). The grant is the first RO1 (Research Project Grant) for the ORC. It is part of a four-year \$1.4 million award to Hodge which began Jan. 1, 2009 and ends Dec. 31, 2012.

"This is my first NIH award so obviously, I was elated. It's the gold standard, specifically the RO1," said Hodge, who is also a research assistant professor in Molecular Biology and Immunology.



Lisa Hodge received a National Institutes of Health grant.

NCCAM is a U.S. government agency that focuses on scientific research on diverse medical and health care systems, practices and products that are not generally considered part of “conventional” medicine. NCCAM sponsors and conducts research using scientific methods and advanced technologies to study complementary and alternative medicine.

Hodge collaborates with Fred Downey, PhD, regents professor in Integrative Physiology and the ORC’s director of Applied Research, to assess the mechanisms by which lymphatic pumps enhance immune surveillance in a healthy state. Lymphatic pump is an osteopathic manipulative medicine technique.

Research shows that treatments that enhance lymph flow, including lymphatic pump treatment, increase the numbers of immune cells in lymphatic circulation. These are the cells that help the body naturally fight infection and kill tumors.

“The goal is to determine what is going on in the body,” Hodge said. “We are essentially enhancing the lymphatic highway, slowing down congestion on the highway.”

“I have the best job in the world. I get to fulfill my curiosity as a scientist, and I get to help people learn, as an instructor. I’m very lucky. I get to spend my days with such intelligent and inspiring people – both the faculty and our students.”

~ Lisa Hodge

In addition, she is working with osteopathic physicians to evaluate how effective osteopathic manipulative techniques are at enhancing the immune system’s response against a variety of infectious and inflammatory diseases.

“Medicine such as that offered by osteopaths is becoming more popular, particularly in Europe,” Hodge said. “One of its main tenets is letting the body heal itself – manipulating the body so it can heal itself.”

Hodge received her doctorate degree in microbiology and immunology from the Health Science Center in 2001, where her research focused on the differences between immune responses generated in the upper and lower respiratory tract during respiratory immunization and infection. During a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, she focused on novel immune therapies for the treatment and prevention of cancer.

Hodge has been invited to speak about her research at several conferences in the United States and Europe.

The best part of being a research scientist?

“That moment when you realize your hypothesis is true!” she said. “Of course, some of the best experiments are designed after your realize your hypothesis is not true.

“I have never regretted becoming a research scientist,” she continued. “I have the best job in the world. I get to fulfill my curiosity as a scientist, and I get to help people learn, as an instructor. I’m very lucky. I get to spend my days with such intelligent and inspiring people – both the faculty and our students.”

Librarians reach into community

Health Science Center students and employees obviously have an advantage when they seek medical data for themselves or a loved one. But what if you need this information and you're not connected to the university?

Let the UNT Health Science Center's medical library come to you.

A woman and a man are sitting on a white ledge against a blue tiled wall. The woman is on the left, wearing a black blazer over a grey top and black pants. The man is on the right, wearing a light blue shirt, a striped tie, and grey pants. Both are holding and looking at their smartphones. The background is a wall of blue square tiles with white grout.

Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library Deputy Director Lisa Smith and Instruction Librarian Jack Bullion teach retrieving data with handheld devices.

Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library staff members regularly speak to professional and consumer groups on how to find reliable medical and health-related facts.

“In any kind of decision making, it’s important to know what information is available and what information is authoritative,” said Lisa Smith, the library’s deputy director.

The Lewis Library performs outreach to 24 Texas counties on behalf of the National Library of Medicine, a component of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. Local medical libraries develop their own outreach programs, and the National Library of Medicine pays for them.

For example, Lewis Library staff members teach clients of United Community Centers along with a representative from the Tarrant County Health Department. They also instruct the Health Department itself on how to obtain online information on chronic diseases, and they conduct sessions for underserved populations in Section 8 housing.

They have taught health professionals how to use mobile devices to look up statistics, data and clinical information. They partnered with the UNT College of Information Science and a Chinese organization on developing a Chinese-language web page.

They’ve helped teen parents find parenting information online through a program with the Fort Worth Independent School District, and they meet monthly with Plaza Hospital nurses to help them find evidence-based nursing literature to support development of “best practices” to use.

All of this, Smith said, is immensely rewarding.

“One physician said he changed his diagnosis of a patient after I helped him find an article,” she said. “It’s very gratifying to help health professionals practice their trade even better. People call from hospitals with clinical questions, and the information we provide them directly affects patients.

“And people have told me they weren’t planning to go to the doctor for an ailment until they looked at the information we helped them find. The kind of information we help them access can affect their decisions and cause them to take an action on their own behalf.”

Parents who have just been told that their child has a genetic disease, for instance, have found the library’s services invaluable.

“When parents learn a child has a disease, the learning curve is very steep and stressful,” Smith said. “It’s the first time they’ve approached the literature. We can help them locate the information.”

The outreach librarians have a three-pronged mission:

- Provide health care practitioners with the tools to become better consumers of health information.
- Help people in the community locate information without becoming overwhelmed.
- Partner with other agencies on obtaining funding and devices to access the Internet, stay connected to resources and extend their reach.

“The UNT Health Science Center has always believed in helping the community, and this is one more example of how we do that,” Smith said.

To arrange for an outreach librarian to speak to a group, contact Jessie Milligan at 817-735-2469.

Some recommended sources of medical information:

www.MedlinePlus.gov

The consumer health database produced by the National Library of Medicine

<http://nihseniorhealth.gov>

Senior Health resource produced by the National Institutes of Health

www.clinicaltrials.gov

The National Library of Medicine clinical trials registry

<http://aidsinfo.nih.gov>

AIDS database produced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

<http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov>

Genetics Home Reference produced by the National Library of Medicine

<http://druginfo.nlm.nih.gov>

Drug Information portal produced by the National Library of Medicine

UNTHSC to train international forensic scientists with \$3.5 million grant

The Center for Human Identification at the UNT Health Science Center received a \$3.5 million three-year grant from Life Technologies Corp., a leader in forensic DNA testing systems, to train researchers from around the world in forensic DNA analysis.

This first-of-its-kind accelerated certification program will train forensic scientists in areas where DNA database legislation or DNA programs are being established to process samples and populate databases for use in criminal investigations and identity verification.

Up to 12 students per session will earn eight credit hours of accelerated learning at the UNT Health Science Center campus in Fort Worth. The grant will help establish a hands-on, operational lab with state-of-the-art equipment, teaching faculty and up to 20 fellowships. The four-week program will give scientists the skills required to process DNA samples in countries where DNA database programs are growing faster than the ability to hire and train analysts to process the samples.

As part of the grant, Life Technologies will equip a high-throughput lab for processing single-source DNA reference samples. The grant also provides for a faculty director and two full-time coordinators to train the DNA experts. The Health Science Center will issue the advanced certificate of completion and keep the equipment for future DNA analysis.



Nicole Phillips, doctoral student in the Forensic and Investigative Genetics Department, works with a benchtop DNA extraction system made by Life Technologies Corp.



Program halves COPD-related hospitalizations, saving \$3.4 million

Patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in 12 East Texas counties may be breathing a little easier due in part to a year-long education program conducted by the Health Science Center's Center for Professional and Continuing Education (PACE). The program, for primary care physicians, contributed to 50 percent fewer hospital admissions due to the complications of COPD, which saved the Texas health care system \$3.4 million.

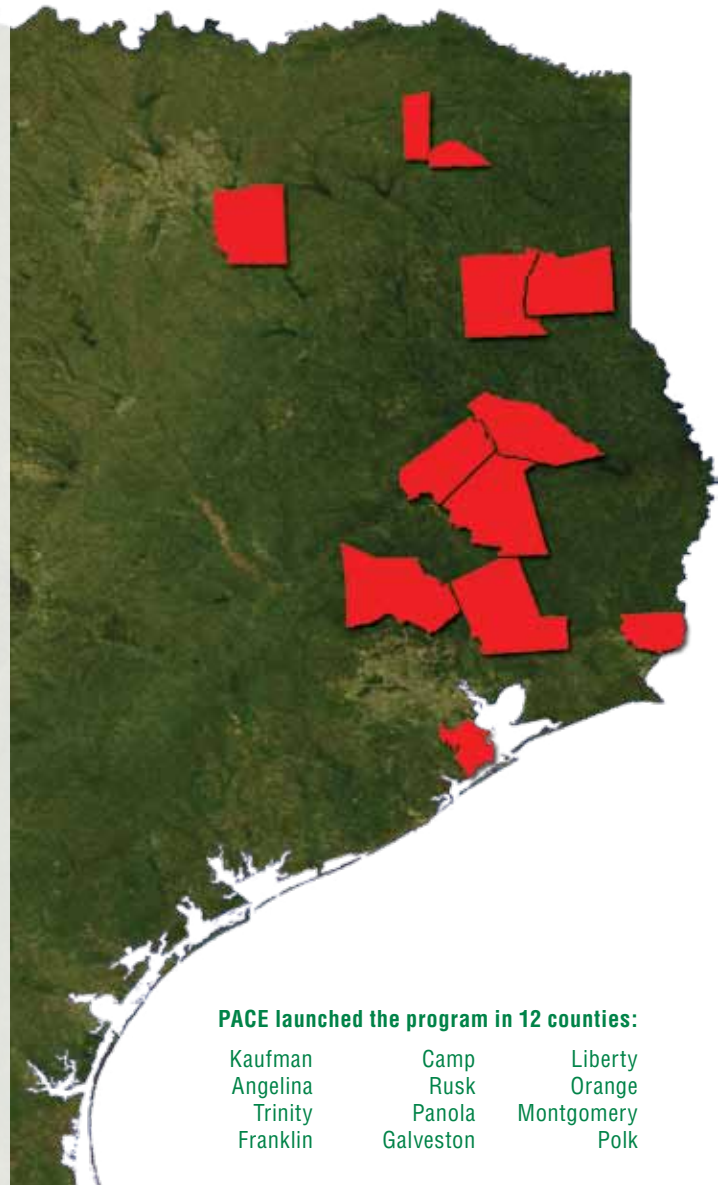
The Health Science Center proposed and conducted the initiative, which was funded by pharmaceutical companies Boehringer Ingelheim and Pfizer. The program educated more than 350 health care professionals in the rural areas of East Texas to improve their ability to talk to patients about the condition and more accurately test for and treat COPD.

COPD is responsible for one death every four minutes in the United States, and at least 12 million cases remain undiagnosed. Between 2005 and 2008 in Texas, COPD was responsible for more than 109,000 hospitalizations costing more than \$2.7 billion. The Health Science Center researched Texas health data and current literature, which formed the basis of the proposal. The grant requests were funded, and UNTHSC independently launched a series of continuing medical education (CME) activities and follow-up cases targeting the counties in East Texas with the highest rates of preventable hospitalizations due to COPD.

To measure the long-term outcomes, researchers looked at the number of prescriptions for drugs recommended to treat COPD, the number of new diagnoses and the number of potentially preventable hospitalizations caused by COPD reported by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The Texas Public Use Data File, a combined set of statistics reported by each hospital in the state, shows that two to three months before the health care providers in these counties attended the activities, there were 1,538 potentially preventable

hospitalizations due to COPD. In the same time period following the programs, only 1,402 were observed – a reduction of 136. The data also show that other counties of similar size and population saw reductions, but the counties targeted by the study saw a 49 percent greater reduction, saving the health care system more than \$3.4 million.



PACE launched the program in 12 counties:

Kaufman	Camp	Liberty
Angelina	Rusk	Orange
Trinity	Panola	Montgomery
Franklin	Galveston	Polk

Bone & Joint Institute opens, offers complete musculoskeletal care

UNT Health launched the Bone and Joint Institute, a complete musculoskeletal care center, in the Ben Hogan Center at Texas Health’s Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth.

“Our new location offers what some might call ‘one-stop musculoskeletal care shopping,’ including physical therapy, access to a surgery center, easy surgery scheduling, X-rays and imaging,” said David Lichtman, MD, chair of the Health Science Center’s Department of Orthopaedic Medicine.

The group has 10 orthopedic surgeons, a primary care sports medicine physician, a rheumatologist, an osteopathic manipulative medicine physician, three podiatrists and a physician assistant. UNT Health’s orthopedic practice on the Health Science Center campus moved into the new facility.

“We are creating a new environment for our patients,” Lichtman said of the 7,400-square-foot facility. “Bringing the full spectrum of bone and joint care together in a location that’s conducive to



Robert Reddix, MD, a UNT Health orthopedist who practices at John Peter Smith Hospital, with patient.

improving the patient experience is the core reason we made the move to the Ben Hogan Center.”

Troutman named Internist of Year



Monte Troutman, DO

The American College of Osteopathic Internists (ACOI) named Monte Troutman, DO, associate professor of Internal Medicine, its 2010 Internist of the Year. The award honors excellence in the practice of clinical medicine. Janice

Knebl, DO, professor of Internal Medicine at the Health Science Center, nominated Troutman for the award.

“Dr. Troutman truly loves taking care of patients and is the gastroenterologist of choice, the one that practicing physicians would seek not only for their own patients but for themselves and their families,” Knebl wrote. “As a clinician educator, he has had a profound effect, not only on the patients that he has cared for, but on future physicians he has trained who will carry on his legacy of caring for patients.”

Troutman heads TCOM’s Division of Gastroenterology and previously was vice chair and chair of the Department of Medicine. While in these positions, he continued to practice clinical gastroenterology, never losing touch with patients. He also has held several leadership positions in the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, including president. He has been active in the Texas Medical Foundation and serves on the ACOI Government Affairs Committee and Phoenix Physician Task Force.

When those 40 winks don't come easily – or too easily

If you catch yourself yawning as you read this, you might have a sleep disorder. Nearly one in three Americans fails to get a good night's sleep for various reasons, and almost 100 million people are chronically sleep deprived. Another 40 million feel exhausted due to a sleep disorder, which can disrupt family life, impact work productivity and even contribute to motor vehicle accidents.

The high incidence of sleep problems created the need for the sleep medicine specialty, and UNT Health's Sherif Al-Farra, MD, has focused on this area for more than 10 years. He is medical director of UNT Health's Center for Sleep Medicine, a board-certified pulmonologist and an expert on insomnia.

Sleep medicine encompasses treating insomnia, sleep apnea (breathing disturbances), narcolepsy (excessive sleepiness) and restless leg syndrome (unpleasant sensations in the legs while resting). Simple overnight studies help diagnose the problems.

Treatment options may include wearing continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) masks to maintain uninterrupted breathing, medications, surgery, changing sleep habits and losing weight.

For more information, call 817-732-4428.



Pick your Superlative: UNT Health physicians are 'Super' and 'Tops'

When it comes to recognition, nothing beats hearing it from your colleagues. Several UNT Health clinicians' peers honored them recently in surveys conducted by *Fort Worth, Texas* and *Texas Monthly* magazines.

Fort Worth, Texas Top Docs

Cardiology

David Slife, DO
Martin Weiss, DO

Gastroenterology

Monte Troutman, DO

Geriatrics

Janice Knebl, DO
Amy Moss, DO

Infectious Diseases

Barbara Atkinson, DO

Neurology

William McIntosh, DO

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Kollier Hinkle, MD

Orthopedic Surgery

Arvind Nana, MD
Russell Wagner, MD

Palliative Care

Alvin Mathé, DO ('89)

Podiatry

Brian Carpenter, DPM
Alan Garrett, DPM
Travis Motley, DPM

Psychiatry

Marija Djokovic, MD
Prema Manjunath, MD
Carol Nati, MD
Alan Podawiltz, DO
Scott Winter, MD

Vascular Surgery

Albert O-Yurvati, DO ('86)

Texas Monthly Super Doctors

Allergy & Immunology

John Fling, MD

Cardiology

Martin Weiss, DO

Hematology

Paul Bowman, MD

Internal Medicine

Kathleen Crowley, MD

Psychiatry and Behavioral Health

Gary Etter, MD
Alan Podawiltz, DO
A. Scott Winter, MD

Surgery - Orthopedics

David Lichtman, MD
Arvind Nana, MD
Russell Wagner, MD

News & Applause

SPH faculty, students share expertise around the U.S.



José A. Pagán, PhD

José A. Pagán, PhD, professor and chair of Health Management and Policy in the Health Science Center's School of Public Health (SPH), shared tools for assessing the benefits and costs of health care interventions and programs for the Texas Department of State Health Services' December Grand Rounds series.

SPH students **Bradford Jackson** and **Ka-Ming Lo** presented research findings on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease at the American Public Health Association meeting in Denver, Colo., Nov. 8.

Kathryn Cardarelli, PhD, MPH ('99), associate professor of Epidemiology and director of the Center for Community Health at the UNT Health Science Center, recently led a podcast for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas on the factors contributing to racial and ethnic health disparities and strategies to minimize these issues.

TCOM students recognized in national associations

Shwetha Chagalamarri (TCOM '12) was selected the national chair of the American Medical Student Association's addiction medicine steering committee. Chagalamarri will work with the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry to create an innovative curriculum for medical schools across the country.

Cole Zanetti (TCOM '11) was named Student Health Activist of the Year by the American Public

Health Association for his work on addiction medicine curriculum reform, smoking cessation reform and health promotional policy and programming. (See story on page 8.)

SPH dean appointed to national association's board

Richard Kurz, PhD, dean of the School of Public Health, was appointed by the Association of Schools of Public Health to serve on the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE). Board members guide the NBPHE in its mission to increase recognition of the public health professions, raise the visibility of public health and improve the competency of public health workers through the public health credentialing exam.

Future medical students succeed in JAMP program on campus

The UNT Health Science Center recently received seven students from various universities matched to it by the Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP). The students will be in the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine's Class of 2015. More than 20 JAMP students have been accepted to TCOM, with the first three graduating in 2010.

Created in 2000, JAMP is a state program that encourages highly qualified, economically disadvantaged students to pursue medical careers in Texas. Each summer, JAMP students go to one of the eight Texas medical schools and complete a rigorous lineup of courses. During the five-week summer program at the Health Science Center, JAMP students attend seminars and lectures, tour

medical and research labs, and participate in a clinical preceptorship





McNair Scholar Thinkh Nguyen

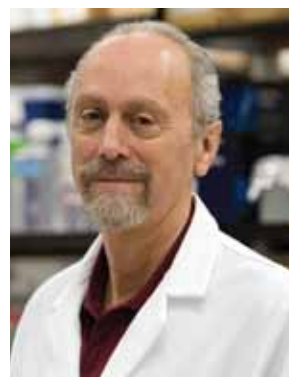
McNair Scholar's research on magnetic cancer treatment recognized

Thinkh Nguyen, a junior physics major at Texas Christian University and a UNT Health Science Center McNair Scholar, recently earned one of the first-place awards given at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Charlotte, N.C. His research explores a new delivery method for an anti-cancer drug, curcumin, to cancer cells or a tumor.

The Ronald E. McNair Achievement Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education in memory of physicist and astronaut Ronald McNair, who died in the 1986 space shuttle Challenger explosion. Additional funding is provided by the Health Science Center's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Miller Brewing Co.'s REACH community investment program.

Nguyen plans to enter the dual DO-PhD program at the Health Science Center and specialize in radiology and oncology.

International eye experts share discoveries at UNTHSC



Bill Hauswirth, PhD

The UNT Health Science Center and its North Texas Eye Research Institute hosted the Association for Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics 10th Scientific Meeting in February. Clinicians, academicians and industry scientists from around the globe shared discoveries related to

the treatment of eye disease, one of UNTHSC's top research areas. Bill Hauswirth, PhD, professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Florida College of Medicine, presented the keynote address on advances in gene therapy for ocular disease.

that includes mentoring, preparation for the Medical College Admission Test, team building and leadership development.

SACS reaffirms UNTHSC accreditation for 10 years

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges reaffirmed the UNT Health Science Center's accreditation, following extensive work that included a site visit in March 2010. During that visit, the SACS team praised the university for its dedication to student success, the Quality Enhancement Plan and its goals. "The institution's leadership team, with the support of the faculty and staff, has driven impressive institutional advancements in the university's areas of focus over recent years," the SACS report read. The next reaffirmation review will be in 2020.

Photo by Sarah Kiewel/University of Florida

Research

Virtual reality adds dimension to physical therapy research

The Health Science Center's Physical Therapy Department will use one of only five virtual reality systems in the nation designed to research patients' balance and movement problems and to help them regain independence. The Health Science Center is the only academic institution in the country to have this system.

Nicoleta Bugnariu and team adopt virtual reality techniques to research and treat balance problems.

Nicoleta Bugnariu, PT, PhD, associate professor of Physical Therapy, will use a virtual reality system that combines an instrumented self-paced, dual-belt treadmill with real-time motion capture and a three-dimensional interactive virtual environment.

A motion analysis system with 12 cameras will track and record all movements made by patients as

they interact with the virtual environment.

Virtual environments can be tailored to each patient's needs. Patients receive advanced physical therapy while experiencing virtual depictions of such real-life activities as opening a door, crossing a street, walking through a forest or driving a boat.

Genomics research promises to help pinpoint effective treatments

Could there be a genetic component to backaches?

The UNT Health Science Center is exploring this and other genetic issues with the newly created Center for Computational Genomics (CCG), led by Ranajit Chakraborty, PhD, professor of Forensic and Investigative Genetics.

Genomic tools now can be used to understand the risks of specific environmental and lifestyle challenges that can be influenced by genetic makeup. These tools also can explore a patient's resistance to particular drugs. This could lead to individualized medicine, in which a patient is treated based on genetic traits, expectations and proven reactions.

CCG researchers use bioinformatics – the application of computer science, mathematics and information theory to analyze biological systems – for biomedical and public health research.

Chakraborty collaborates with the Osteopathic Research Center (ORC), led by John Licciardone,

DO, MBA, MS, in researching low back pain and the role that genetics may play in treatment success. These genetic effects are called biomarkers and may be important to the effectiveness of many therapies.

Chakraborty also works with Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH ('01) and Bandana Chakraborty, DrPH, at the Health Science Center's Primary Care Research Institute to determine indicators of chronic health effects beyond genetics.



Ranjit Chakraborty, PhD, and team

Alumni

Combining beauty and well-being

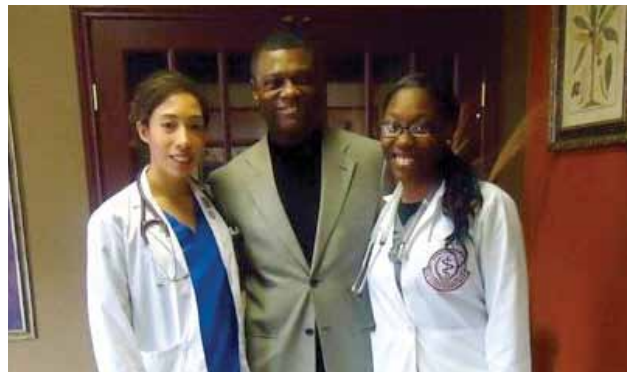
Students from the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) launched a new grassroots community program, "It Starts with Mom," by conducting blood pressure and blood glucose screenings at the Dramatic Results beauty salon in Duncanville, Texas. Alumnus Dralves Edwards, DO ('80), supervised students Jessica Edwards (TCOM '14) and Talitha Morton (TCOM '14). The students conducted screenings and counseled patrons on the higher risks African-Americans face from hypertension and diabetes, including side effects from diabetes such as vision disorders. The National Eye Health Education Program provided educational materials for the screening and will feature the event in its national newsletter. SNMA will expand the program to barber shops as well as Fort Worth locations and continue screenings the last Saturday of each month throughout the academic year.

Campaign supports scholarships

The spring alumni giving telephone campaign to help fund student scholarships is under way and will conclude the end of May. The number of donors during the recent fall campaign grew by 10 percent. The Health Science Center and the students who benefit from the scholarships thank you for such a generous giving rate, and we hope to be able to provide even more scholarships with the spring campaign. Gifts at any level are encouraged, because there truly is power in combined support. One hundred percent of your gift benefits your school, and if you'd like to make your donation now, please visit the online giving site at www.hsc.unt.edu/advancement. We look forward to partnering with you to improve the future of health care. Again, on behalf of our students, thank you for your gifts and leadership.



Talitha Morton and Jessica Edwards helped teach salon patrons about risks of hypertension, diabetes and related disorders.



Dralves Edwards, DO ('80) (center) supervised Morton and Edwards as they conducted health screenings.

Upcoming events

TCOM 11th Annual Specialty Round Table
April 26, 2011 • 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Location: MET 109-111

The roundtable allows TCOM students to learn about various medical specialties by visiting with alumni who practice them. Alumni who wish to participate should contact Denise Armstrong, (817) 735-2278, denise.armstrong@unthsc.edu.

TCOM Reunion 2011 celebrating classes of 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006
September 16-17

Times and location to be announced

If you are a member of one of these classes and would like to provide suggestions for a fun-filled event, please contact Denise Armstrong, (817) 735-2278, denise.armstrong@unthsc.edu.

TCOM alumna enabling her African homeland to dream of better health

Anne Alaniz remembers vividly every time her mother left to have a baby. As the eldest child, her mother would brief Alaniz on what to do in case she didn't survive the childbirth.

There was a good chance she would not.

Alaniz, DO ('04), grew up in Malawi, Africa, where death is a frequent companion to life.

"I was not aware of how bad it was there until I came to the United States," she said. "It was not

dead on their mamas' backs before they could get care. There was no insulin, no refrigeration to preserve insulin if they had it, and no glucometers to test blood sugar. If you have diabetes, you are going to die."

Even though Alaniz's father, Peter Maseko, is a nurse practitioner, he, too, faced treating people with few supplies as he practiced in the villages. Anne often helped her father.

"There wasn't one day that a child didn't die," she remembers. "I was doomed to this life in the village."

But Ivey, determined to do something to help, spoke to Maseko about bringing Anne to the United States for college. At the time, Anne was in boarding school, paid for by missionaries, with little chance of getting into Malawi's only university.

Maseko believed the offer to be the answer to his prayers. At age 18, his daughter left Malawi for the first time, flew on her first jet and arrived at DFW International Airport, where she met Ivey for the first time.

"I was scared out of my mind," Alaniz said. "I had never seen that many white people in one place in my life."

She went on to earn an undergraduate degree at Dallas Baptist University, where she met a classmate who wanted to attend the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM).

"The philosophy of osteopathic medicine, the holistic approach, made sense," Alaniz said. She believed that osteopathic manipulative medicine techniques, which involve the physician using manual therapies, would be useful in Malawi.

"I thought, 'Why not use my hands to help people if there is no pharmacology to use,'" she said. She's glad she did.



Anne Alaniz, DO, (gesturing) passes out mosquito nets in Malawi, Africa.

unusual to arrive at school to find your 10-year-old classmate not there. That rarely happens here."

Alaniz wants to help ensure it becomes rare in Malawi as well. Thanks to a remarkable set of circumstances, she has the opportunity to do that.

Alaniz believes it's divine intervention that brought Donna Ivey into her life. Ivey, MD, a Texas Health Resources emergency room physician who practices primarily in Cleburne, Texas, visited a missionary friend in Malawi. Ivey saw patients there ravaged by what most likely was AIDS, but the clinic staff had no way to test for the disease and no medicine.

"They literally just gave these patients aspirin and sent them home," Ivey said. "You'd see babies



Donna Ivey, MD, with infant at a clinic in Africa.



Anne Alaniz, DO, with her father, Peter Maseko, a nurse practitioner in Malawi.



Alaniz's dream of a clinic for her hometown is well under way. Now she is raising money to pay staff salaries.

“You never know the quality of your education while you’re there, but when I started my residency, it gave me an appreciation for how well TCOM had prepared me. I had a very good background, and everyone was very supportive. Our voices as students were valued.”

Yet she was haunted by the memory of those back home. Leaving Malawi was something Alaniz had never dreamed about. She asked herself why, of all the people in Malawi, she was the one presented this opportunity.

Those in Malawi were “living the fate that was meant for me,” she said. “I had to reconcile my life living in the United States. I did a lot of soul searching, asking what’s my purpose here.”

One day she told Ivey, “I was not brought to the United States to have a big house and two cars.”

She and her father bought more than 30 acres of land near Salima, Malawi, where she wanted to build a women’s and children’s health clinic. That purchase reminded her, she said, that she can’t be selfish.

“I will go back to those I grew up with. Those in Malawi can’t even dream about bettering themselves. I am living a dream that they’ve never seen.”

Then karma, divine intervention, good fortune – whatever you want to call it – struck again.

During her residency in Kansas City, she was assisting with a caesarean section when the patient’s husband learned Alaniz was from Malawi. He was Joe Knittig, with the non-profit Global Orphan Project, and he wanted to open an orphanage in Africa.

The orphanage and a school are open on Alaniz’s land. The clinic building is well under way with help from Brad Guatney, who leads another

non-profit, Global Health Innovations. Alaniz and Guatney have received donated supplies, and a contributor has paid to ship them to Africa. Now they are raising money to pay salaries for the clinic staff, in part through this website – <http://globalhealthinnovations.org/projects> – where Guatney says 100 percent of the donations (which are tax deductible) go to Alaniz’s work in Malawi.

In the meantime, Alaniz is completing a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at York Hospital in York, Pa. The field requires her to master complicated surgical procedures, such as bowel resections, that will be useful at home.

Once she completes her fellowship, she knows she will need to work in the United States so she can afford to pay for clinic operations. She’ll be looking for a position that allows her to return to Africa frequently so she can perform surgeries.

“I was not brought to the United States to have a big house and two cars.”

~ Anne Alaniz

Doesn’t sound like a big house is in her future.

Alaniz knows villagers won’t be able to pay for their care, but she hopes to attract paying tourists to help create a revenue stream. Ivey will help set up the clinic in a way to make it attractive to Westerners as well as to the local population, and Maseko will manage the facility.

Alaniz is married to a man from San Antonio, and they have two children, ages 8 and 2. They all know they will live in Africa one day, even if that is not practical now.

“I feel like this is a way to reach back home to the women I left behind,” Alaniz said. “They will have the opportunity to be taken care of.”

Advancement

A hero for soldiers and the Health Science Center

A writer once said that the “ordinary man is involved in action” but “the hero acts.”

Albert O-Yurvati, DO ('86), is a man of action, both now and for the future. The *Fort Worth Business Press* took notice, naming him one of 16 Healthcare Heroes for 2011, the second time the newspaper has given him this honor.

O-Yurvati, a cardiothoracic surgeon, was chosen for his research into ways to better treat soldiers with devastating wounds to their arms and legs, one of the most common injuries on the modern battlefield. He and his wife, Sharon, also are acting to protect the ability of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) to teach future health care heroes with a \$2.07 million estate gift.

“I felt it’s important as a faculty member and alumnus to show by example my commitment to the school and institution – this is the time to make a profound statement,” he said. “TCOM gave me the opportunity to develop my career.”

O-Yurvati, a professor and chair of Surgery and adjunct professor of Integrative Physiology, has had an atypical career for a cardiac surgeon. His pioneering research on pyruvate, a natural nontoxic metabolite and fuel, has demonstrated that the substance can improve recovery of heart and brain function after cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. He also has shown that it helps prevent damage to the heart muscle during cardiopulmonary bypass.

Now he’s applying that knowledge to treating severe battlefield injuries. He is a co-investigator with Robert Mallet, PhD, professor of Integrative Physiology, on research funded by the U.S. Department of Defense.

“... it’s important as a faculty member and alumnus to show by example my commitment to the school and institution – this is the time to make a profound statement ...”

Blood loss from wounded limbs can put the patient into shock due to low blood pressure. This is generally treated with intravenous fluids and tourniquets to stop blood loss. But when the tourniquet comes off, oxygen rushing to the limb can inflame other organs, possibly causing multiple organ failure. O-Yurvati and Mallet have shown that giving pyruvate prevents muscle damage during the application and release of tourniquets and also enhances the recovery of heart function and blood pressure. O-Yurvati is exploring a Phase I clinical trial.

That’s just one of his projects in addition to teaching, seeing patients and performing complicated cardiovascular surgery. He is known internationally for his work, in particular at the University of Strathclyde in Scotland, where he is a visiting professor collaborating on several biomedical engineering projects.

O-Yurvati has served on numerous local, state and national committees and is past president of the Metro Fort Worth American Heart Association and a past board member of the Texas Affiliate of the American Heart Association. He is chairman of the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery and active in the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, having served as a Cardiothoracic Discipline chair and currently as Awards Committee chairman.

He serves on two editorial boards, is a reviewer for several journals and has published 50 peer-reviewed articles and two book chapters while lecturing internationally. For several years, he has served as medical director for The Cowtown, Fort Worth’s annual six-race running event.

He credits TCOM with providing the broad perspective that led to a varied career.

~ Al O-Yurvati

“TCOM is primary-care driven, and I’m a sub-specialist,” he explains. “But this was a great environment to gain a basic medical appreciation and be able to make a difference among cardiac surgeons.”

He and his wife have directed that at least \$1 million of his estate gift endow a TCOM professorship, and another \$1 million endow a professorship in the GSBS Department of Integrative Physiology or the Health Science Center’s Cardiovascular Research Institute. Another \$50,000 will be used for cardiovascular research seed grants and \$20,000 for TCOM student scholarships.

“As part of my legacy,” he said, “I want to demonstrate my commitment to this institution that has given me the opportunity for a fantastic and exciting career as an osteopathic physician.”

O-Yurvati became interested in medicine while working as a pharmacy tech in high school. Two colleagues were attending the osteopathic medical school in Philadelphia, and he was intrigued by the field. He later served as a medic in the Army, where he met his wife, Sharon.

“She spurred me on,” he said. “This is our way of giving back.”

A man of action indeed.

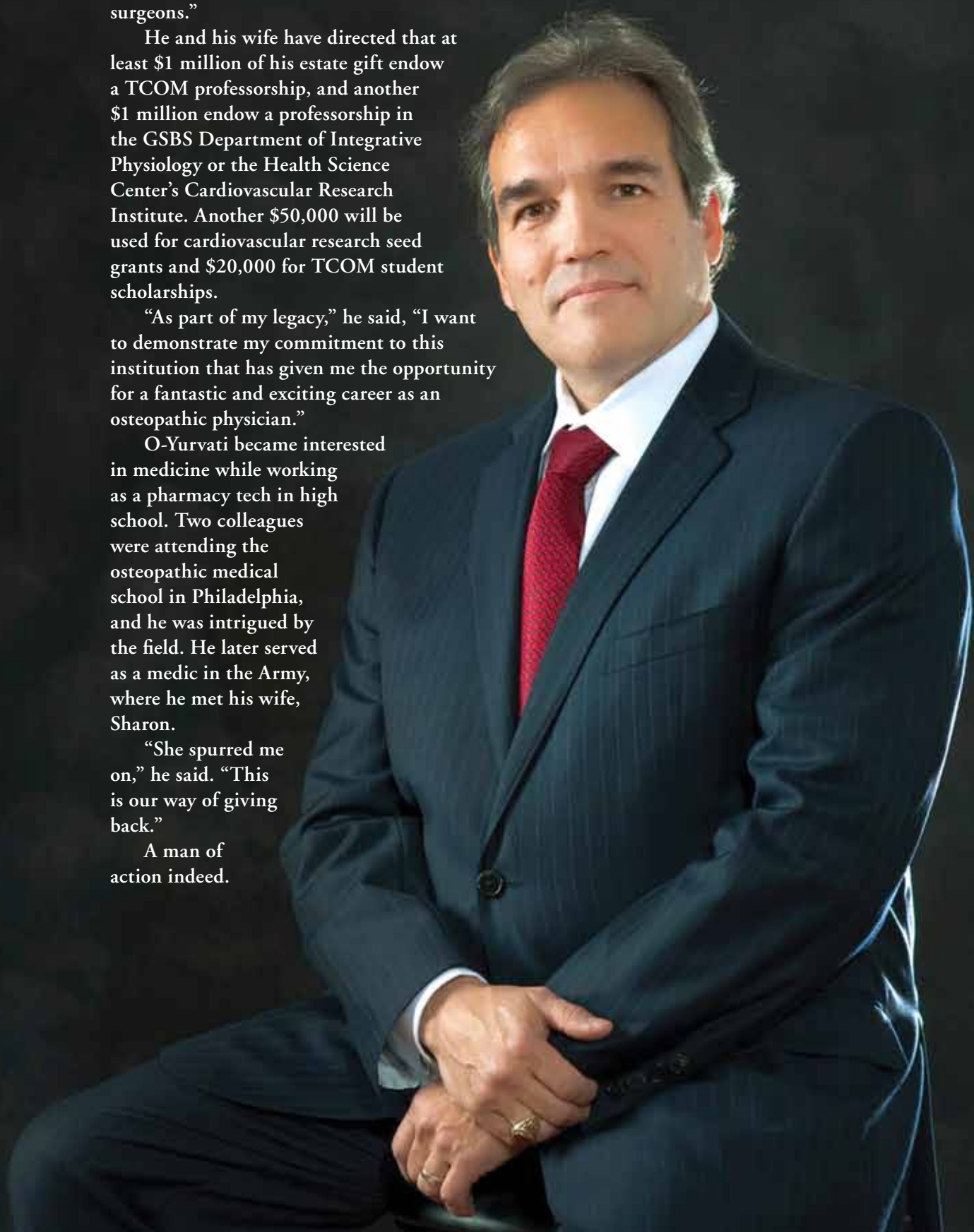


Photo by Glen Ellman

White coat. Black tie.



Gala celebrates 40-year heritage

The UNT Health Science Center celebrated its cornerstone school, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM), and 40 years of history at the annual To Your Health gala in October at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel. TCOM's co-founder, Carl Everett, DO, was honored with the Health Science Center's Vision Award. Proceeds from the event support scholarships for TCOM students.



President Scott B. Ransom, DO, presents Vision Award to Carl Everett, DO, TCOM co-founder, while Tim Sullivan, Foundation Board member, looks on.



Attendees enjoyed a fireworks display



UNT System Regent Steve Mitchell and Karen Mitchell



Brenda Busch, Wim Bens, Annita Bens, Andre Bens, Sarah Harron, Sebastiaan Bens



Guests danced to the tunes of ZuZu Peddals



Henry Fella; Sara Woodward; President Scott Ransom, DO; and Elizabeth Ransom, MD

The 2011 UNT Health Science Center annual To Your Health gala, celebrating our School of Health Professions, will be Nov. 5 at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel.

For more information and sponsor opportunities please call 817.735.2445 or e-mail michelle.west@unthsc.edu.

Facility Update



MET Building earns ‘LEED Gold’ environmental rating

The UNT Health Science Center’s newest facility, the Medical Education and Training (MET) Building, received LEED Gold Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for meeting strict environmental standards.

The MET Building is the first UNT System facility to earn the designation. LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) is an internationally recognized non-profit green building certification group that provides third-party verification that a building was built to boost energy savings and water efficiency, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, improve indoor environmental quality and minimize use of nonrenewable resources.

The UNT System mandated that all new construction qualify at the LEED Silver level or higher, the result of an initiative by Chancellor Lee Jackson. UNTHSC also is implementing energy-saving features throughout the campus, including new windows and occupancy sensors.

When compared to a similar building of the same size that is not built to LEED standards,

the MET Building will:

- Save about 250,000 gallons of drinkable water each year.
- Save about \$55,000 annually in electricity and natural gas costs.

Sustainable features of the MET Building

- Construction generated more than 30 tons of waste, of which 94 percent was diverted from the landfill through recycling.
- More than 20 percent of the construction material contained recycled content and/or was extracted, processed and manufactured within 500 miles of the project site.
- The building was constructed on a redeveloped site. Building materials and ventilating systems were designed to improve indoor air quality.
- The building fire suppression system does not use ozone-depleting substances.
- Exterior lighting was designed to reduce light pollution, and the building’s glass is insulated to reduce solar energy and ultraviolet light.



Workers install more energy efficient windows in the Education and Administration Building.



Work is progressing in the MET Building.

Construction under way in CBH and MET buildings

Construction began in March on expanded space for the Department of Forensic and Investigative Genetics on the sixth level of the Center for Biohealth at the UNT Health Science Center. The 26,000-square-foot space will improve workflow and security. Work is also under way on completing floors 3-5 of the Medical Education and Training Building.

In the Community

Health Science Center helps fuel Cowtown success

A record 22,089 runners participated in this year's Cowtown races. The UNT Health Science Center, which co-founded the race 33 years ago, sponsored the event's half marathon, and 195 UNTHSC volunteers helped keep events on course.

The Cowtown benefits CALF (Children's Activities for Life & Fitness). Last year, the Cowtown gave more than 600 grants to underprivileged youth and more than 500 pairs of New Balance shoes to youngsters in need.

Right: UNTHSC President Scott Ransom, DO, and Vice President of Marketing and Communications and Cowtown Board Member Jean Tips at the finish line. *Below:* Runners make their way through the historic Fort Worth Stock Yards.



In Remembrance

Ralph L. Willard, DO, former TCOM dean and president

Ralph L. Willard, DO, former dean and president of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM), died Jan. 30. He had served in academic positions with the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine before being named TCOM dean in 1975. He became TCOM's president when the Legislature created the position in 1981.

When Willard came aboard, TCOM was still largely housed in a renovated bowling alley. He led the physical transformation with the openings of the Education and Administration and the Research and Education buildings, as well as the groundbreaking for the Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library.

He contributed to goals statements calling for TCOM's people and programs to help find solutions for America's health care problems, prevent disease and foster collaborative biomedical research. He received the TCOM Founders' Medal in 1985. He became associate dean at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in 1988.

Willard had been a decorated World War II bomber pilot and a successful surgeon before joining the academic ranks. More information about



Willard and his accomplishments is available in his obituary published Feb. 1 in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, www.star-telegram.com.



Gil Scarnati, GSBS student and TCOM alumnus

Gil Scarnati, DO ('90), who was pursuing a doctorate degree in neuroscience in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, died Feb. 11.

He was featured on page 39 of the last issue of *North Texas Health and Science* – see <http://www.issuu.com/unthsc/docs/nths20103> – where he described his reasons for pursuing a doctorate degree despite having a degenerative disease, his love of osteopathic medicine and his reasons for making a gift for scholarships to the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. His obituary, published Feb. 20 in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, is at www.star-telegram.com.

Donor Honor Roll **Lifetime Giving**

The UNT Health Science Center is deeply appreciative of our many friends and donors who have generously given over their lifetime to support the mission of our institution. Their ongoing commitment is a vital part of our success and growth.

Doctor of Philanthropy, \$1,000,000+

Amon G. Carter Foundation	Osteopathic Heritage Foundation
Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians, Inc.	Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
Carl E. Everett	Sid W. Richardson Foundation
Clay W. Gilbert	Albert & Sharon Yurvati
Frederick & Cindy Hill	

Founder's Vision Society, \$500,000+

Alcon	Marianne & Alan Levine
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine	North Texas Affiliated Medical Group
American Osteopathic Foundation	Osteopathic Health Foundation, Inc.
Bass Foundation – Mr. & Mrs. Edward P. Bass	Syngenta & Novartis Crop Protection, Inc.
Susan G. Komen Foundation	Texas Health Harris Methodist Fort Worth
Life Technologies Foundation	Texas Health Harris Methodist Select
The Miles Foundation	W.B. & Ellen Gordon Stuart Trust

White Coat Society, \$100,000+

Abbott Laboratories	Garvey Texas Foundation
Alzheimer's Association	Robert J. Hardin Estate
American Diabetes Foundation	Houston Endowment, Inc.
American Osteopathic Association	Huguley Health System
AT&T Foundation	Lowdon Family Foundation
Anonymous Donor	Adeline & George McQueen Foundation
Richard D. Bass Foundation	The Meadows Foundation
Baylor All Saints Medical Center	Robert L. Patton, Jr.
Ronald R. Blanck	Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth
The Burnett Foundation	Leo Potishman Trust
Cancer Research Foundation of North Texas	Garrett Smith Estate
Community Hospital Foundation	Wayne & Norma Lee Stockseth
Joe & Jessie Crump Foundation	Technical University of Berlin
DH Foundation	David Tuttle, Jr.
Etta O. Newby Estate	John A. Wilson, Sr.*
Fairchild Family	Thomas & Elena Yorio
Janice Knebl & Thomas Fairchild	
Fairchild Estate	

*deceased

Discovery Council, \$25,000+

Aetna, Inc.	Dean, Jacobson Financial Services	Lee Wiley Moncrief
Baylor L. Agerton Trust	Michael Deese	Thomas & Melissa Moorman
Jeffrey B. Alpern	Healthpoint, Ltd.	My-Tech
A.T. Still Osteopathic Foundation	J.E.S. Edwards Foundation	Robert A. Nickell
A.T. Still University School of Health Management	Charles Fleming Trust	Omimex Energy, Inc.
Attenuon, L.L.C.	Fort Worth ISD	Oncor Electric Delivery
Elizabeth Reeves Henning Estate, care of the Baptist Foundation of Texas	Foundation Fighting Blindness	Orange Memorial Hospital Corp.
Annita & Andre Bens	Foundation for Osteopathic Health Services	Osteopathic Medical Center Guild of Texas
Jay F. Bonds	Arnold G. Gachman	The Owsley Foundation
T.J. Brown and C.A. Lupton Foundation	Higginbotham & Associates, Inc.	Shirley Pfeuffer
William and Catherine Bryce Memorial Fund	Houston Osteopathic Hospital Foundation	Quest Diagnostics
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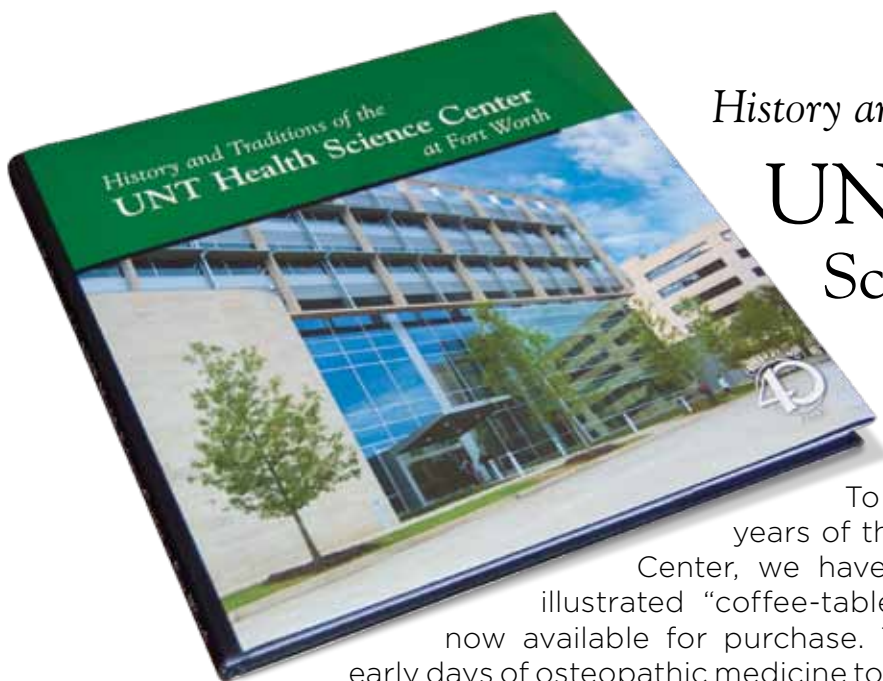
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