

NORTH TEXAS HEALTH & SCIENCE

Winter 2008

The Quarterly Magazine of UNT Health Science Center

Ensuring a Bright Future

On the Strategy's Front Line



MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT

The new year is already under way and with it, the winds of change are bringing fresh opportunities in every corner. Naturally, we're all hopeful about the incoming administration in Washington and the promise of lasting solutions to our nation's many challenges. Closer to home, I'm pleased to report that we're already well into the first fiscal year of our own transformative five-year operational strategy, which focuses on aggressive capacity increases in three major operational areas: academics, research and clinical care.

In this issue, we invite you to join us for an up-close-and-personal look at our strategic plan as seen through the eyes of a few of those who live it every day - students, faculty and staff of the University of North Texas Health Science Center. In their own words, they describe what the strategy means to them in terms of today's reality and tomorrow's hopes.

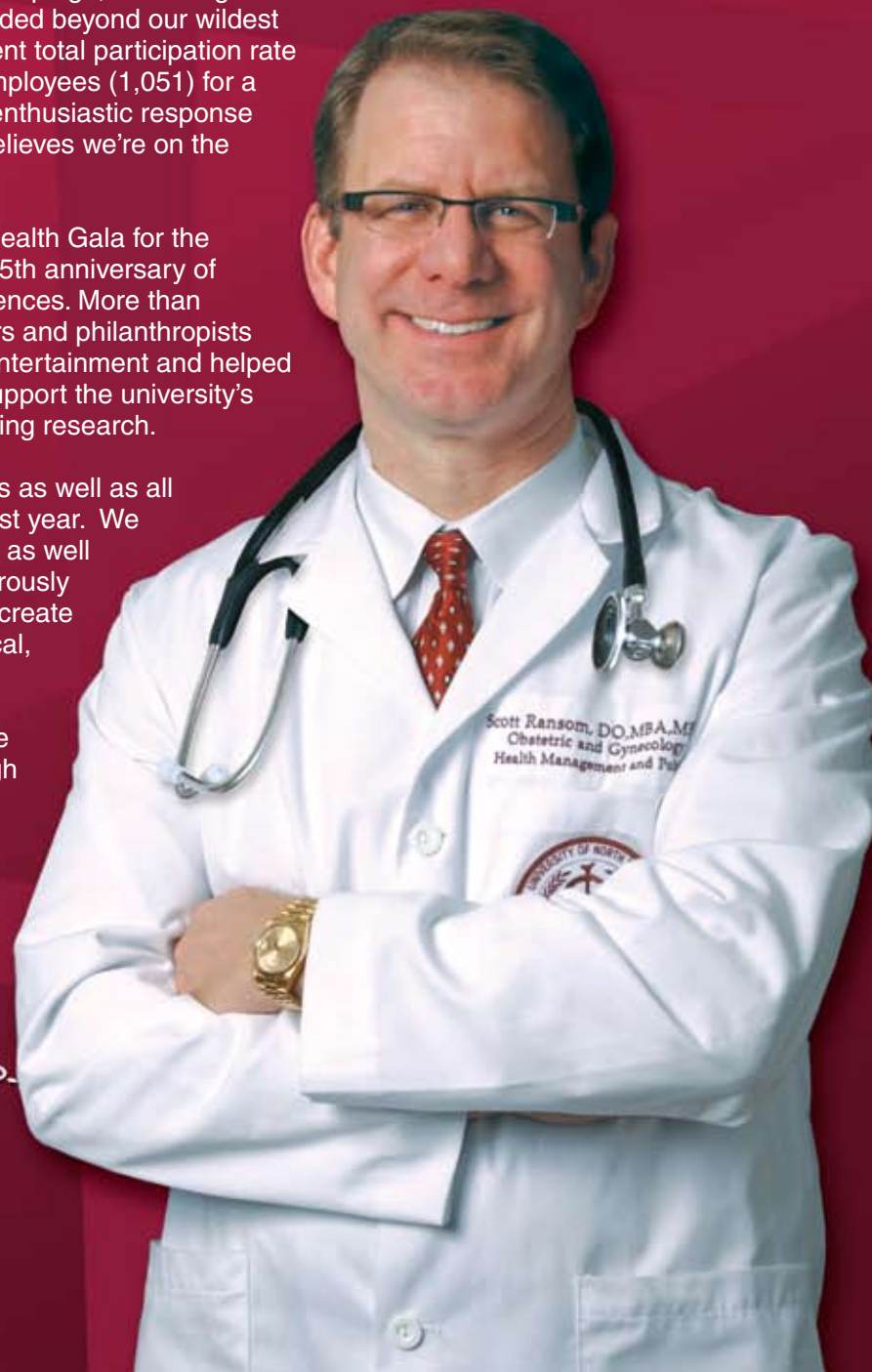
You'll also read about two exciting events that brought our strategy to life during the latter part of 2008. First was our Campus Pride campaign, "Breaking New Ground: Can You Dig It?," which succeeded beyond our wildest expectations with a staggering 83 percent total participation rate and a record number of participating employees (1,051) for a total of \$207,329 in contributions. This enthusiastic response clearly shows that our campus family believes we're on the right track to a better tomorrow.

Our second event, the annual To Your Health Gala for the Fort Worth community, celebrated the 15th anniversary of our Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. More than 600 prominent citizens, business leaders and philanthropists joined us for a spectacular evening of entertainment and helped raise more than \$204,000 in funds to support the university's educational programs and groundbreaking research.

We thank the Gala donors and sponsors as well as all our contributors and friends over the past year. We acknowledge their support in this issue, as well as those who have contributed so generously over our history. Your help allows us to create a healthier tomorrow for many in our local, state and national communities.

We're glad to be able to share a glimpse of our work with you as we move through 2009 to a brighter day.

As always, please feel free to e-mail me with your comments and suggestions at:
sransom@hsc.unt.edu



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North Texas Health & Science is published quarterly for the UNT Health Science Center community and friends by the Marketing & Communications Department.

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CAMPUS FACILITY UPDATE

Watch us grow online



Now that construction is under way on Building A – the Health Science Center's new 112,000-square-foot education building – there will be lots of visible changes on campus. Stay up to speed on the progress with the newly redesigned UNTHSC Campus Facility Update Web site, featuring regularly updated photos and information about our construction projects around campus.

<http://www.hsc.unt.edu/campusfacilityupdate>

Get a bird's-eye view of the construction as it happens. The site features links to our two live construction web cams.

Timeline:

February 2008: UNTHSC says farewell to the Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas. Demolition begins.

October 2008: Demolition completed. Construction mobilization and excavation begins.

November 2008: Drilling for support piers.

February 2009: Structural steel construction.

April 2009: Building façade construction.

May 2009 to January 2010: Completion. 🏠





Ensuring a Bright Future

On the Strategy's Front Line

A successful operating strategy helps any organization's operations flow in the same direction. When everyone is heading the same way, powerful things happen.

Here at the Health Science Center, the destination of our strategic direction is easily stated: "To be recognized nationally as a top-10 health science center." To get there, the people of the UNT Health Science Center will be taking the school's traditional core strengths in **academics, research, clinical care** and **community engagement** to all-new levels of performance.

Over the next five years, we have plans to double our student and faculty numbers. Research grants will triple. UNT Health, the care delivery part of the institution, will expand beyond Tarrant County to serve even more of North Texas. And the campus itself will grow by more than 300,000 square feet.

But just "understanding" the strategy is not enough. "Living" the strategy is key to success.

On the following pages, we invite you to meet some of the people of the UNT Health Science Center –students, faculty and staff – who will be bringing the strategy to life. In their own words, they describe how the strategy reaches into their everyday activities and how those activities will take an already great institution to the next level.

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Damon Schranz, DO

Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine '98
*Assistant Professor/Director of Clinical
Preceptorship, Family Medicine*

Today: "By adding several hundred faculty in the past couple of years, we've helped our institution's practice plan (UNT Health) increase patient visits by almost threefold. That translates into easier access of care for patients in and around our community."

On the future: "Though the strategy implementation will be difficult initially, the end result will be a more efficient, effective organization that can and will be recognized for its excellent educational degree plans, leading-edge research and far-reaching community impact."

"I'm convinced that our strategy will help us in three ways: We can become a more agile organization that's able to rapidly adapt to changes in healthcare markets; we can become a leader in focused medical research; and we can remind everyone that we are a university with a proud history and future."



Krista Gordon, MPH

School of Public Health '06
Assistant Director of Alumni Development

Today: "Alumni are incredibly important components of our community because they are our ambassadors. We have excellent students who graduate from our institution armed with the tools to go out and make a crucial impact on the health of the communities in which they choose to live and practice. In these communities, our alumni are the face of our institution."

On the future: "I'm convinced we are among the top health science centers in the nation. In five years, I envision us being a top-10 institution. That will be amazing achievement!"

"If we do the quality job we hope to do, in five years we will have a dramatically improved program featuring active alumni who are invested in our growth and progress, advocates for our school and profession and strong partners in advancing our shared mission."



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Shalini Persaud, MS

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences '03
*Fifth-year PhD graduate student,
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*

Today: "The five-year strategy will build on our outreach programs in grades K-12 and beyond. I think mentor programs like these are the best way for students who are interested in the health sciences to gain a real hands-on perspective of life as a biomedical scientist or physician."

On the future: "I predict that the Health Science Center will be a leader in all aspects of the health sciences in the next five years with its involvement in developing innovative technologies, cutting-edge research and community-based health programs."

"Since I began my association with the Health Science Center eight years ago, I have seen the school grow tremendously and really excel in terms of new research, new student enrollment and new faculty. The five-year strategy will extend this growth further out to the community and give the school the exposure it deserves to continue promoting the health sciences."

Michael Clark, PhD, PA-C

*Associate Professor, Department of Internal
Medicine/Division of Cardiovascular Medicine
and Department of Physician Assistant Studies*

Today: "One of my goals is to make 'physician assistant' a household phrase. The goal is not to supplant the physician but to emphasize the idea that a team relationship can meet health care delivery needs today and tomorrow. It's a concept that works, and we are at the forefront of this positive trend."

On the future: "We will build on our history of clinical excellence and leadership in general primary care to include areas such as women's health (especially heart health), preventive cardiology and geriatric care. We will also enhance our standing as a top-tier academic institution. Our strategy helps emphasize the critical need for team efforts to deliver quality health care."

"Our strategy creates an environment that nurtures collaborative, top-tier relationships locally and nationally and will get us a seat at the same table with the historic power brokers of academic medicine."



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ShaoHua Yang, PhD, MD

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences '04
*Assistant Professor,
Pharmacology & Neuroscience*

Today: "I've seen tremendous change in the past eight years that I've been associated with the Health Science Center, first as a student and now as a faculty member. But one thing has remained constant, and that's the sense of collaborative interaction and teamwork with colleagues – really with everyone on campus. There's just no place else like it!"

On the future: "We're really making progress toward a much better tomorrow for everybody in our community. As we grow by bringing in more students and faculty and physicians, we're helping the city of Fort Worth grow. And the more we grow, the more the city grows and the more we can all work together to manage the growth. It's a cycle that can keep repeating and turn our already strong community into a truly world-class city."

"The thing about research is that it's always new and always exciting. The research we do here is just amazing and makes me jump out of bed every morning. I can't wait to come to work to see what's new. The five-year strategy is the best way possible to make sure we continue to build our team to so we are always a part of the most exciting research projects out there."

Carolyn Rodgers

Facilities Management

Today: "Through UNT Health, we have more clinics in the Tarrant County area, serving more of the people who really need good care. It's exciting to me to see young students going to classes, knowing that one day, they'll be taking care of our fellow citizens."

On the future: "I'm confident in the plan and I think we will meet our goals. It's an inspiration to have such a clear vision of what will be, and it inspires all of us to be better, too."

"I'm inspired when I think about where we're going in the next few years. I want to learn a lot more and be able to help with the plan. I am very positive about what's going on at the Health Science Center and all the possibilities. It's very exciting!"

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Rance Berg, PhD

*Assistant Professor and Graduate Advisor,
Molecular Biology and Immunology,
Office of Postdoctoral Education*

Today: "The increased training of students will undoubtedly lead to more qualified physicians, scientists and health care specialists entering the local workforce. By promoting and growing health care at many different locations throughout the area, UNT Health will improve the health of citizens in Tarrant and surrounding counties."

On the future: "The five-year strategy will allow me access to more students, which will increase my research productivity. The increased recruitment of highly qualified faculty will allow for more productive research collaborations. State-of-the-art facilities will further increase research opportunities. Collectively, these changes and advances will result in more scientific publications and increased federal research funding."

"The five-year strategy indicates to me that the leaders of this institution are not satisfied with accepting the status quo. The UNT Health Science Center will be recognized as one of the pre-eminent health science centers, not only in the state of Texas, but across the nation."



Rita Patterson, PhD

*Professor, Department of Osteopathic
Manipulative Medicine; Director, Osteopathic
Heritage Foundation Physical Medicine Core
Research Facility*

Today: "The Health Science Center is in a big city but has a surprisingly welcome small-town community feel. This is a major strength, and I believe the five-year strategy enhances this quality."

On the future: "The administration has clear goals for the next phase of growth, which include several new buildings that bring much-needed space. The strategy is being clearly communicated and everyone had a chance to provide input. We will continue to be a leading model for the absolute best in education, research and health care."

"Coming to the Health Science Center in September has provided me the opportunity to do what I love. It's comforting to know that what I do is valued and everyone ... everyone! ... has been extremely supportive."

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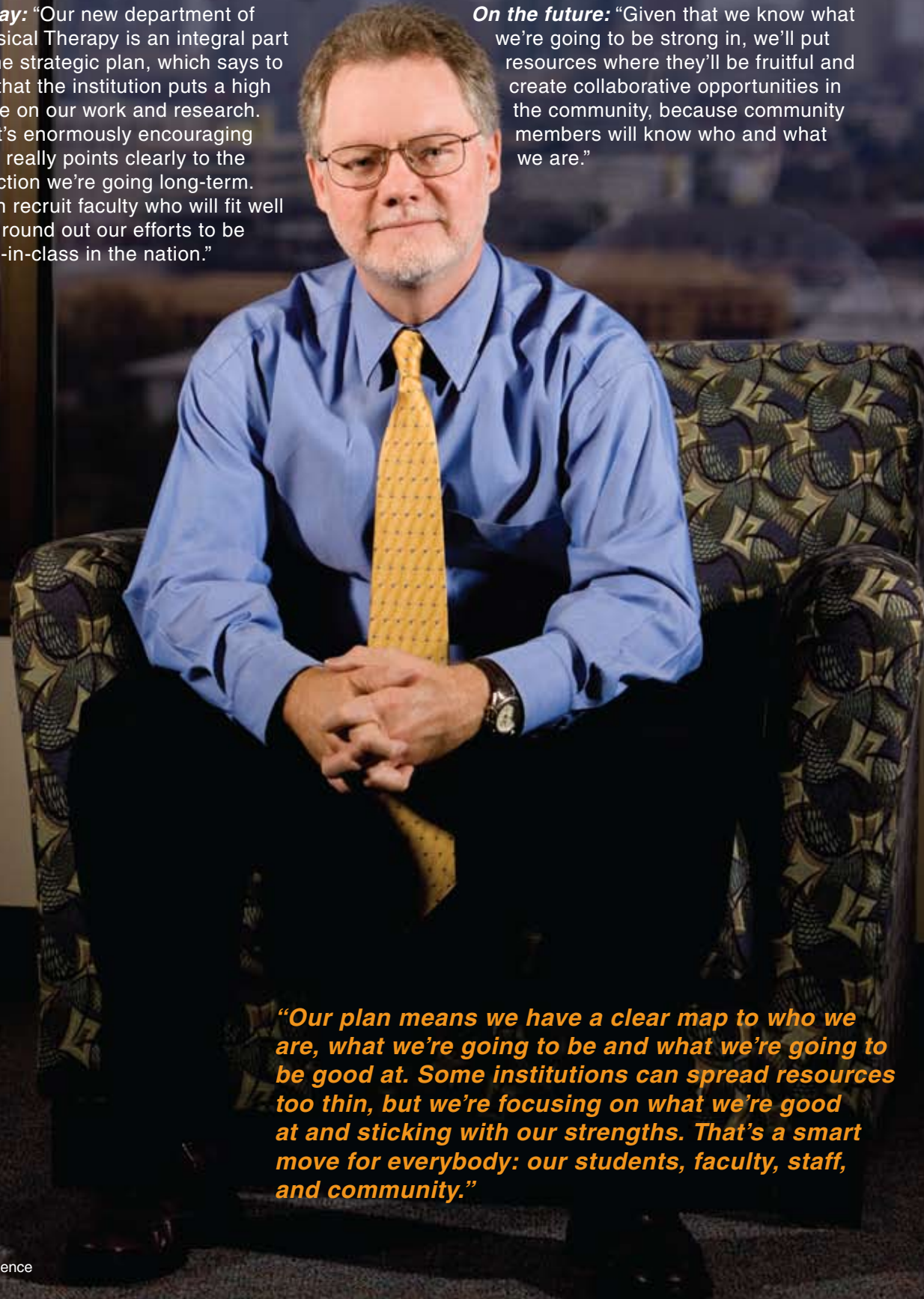
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Clayton Holmes, EdD, PT, ATC

*Chair, Department of Physical Therapy,
School of Health Professions*

Today: "Our new department of Physical Therapy is an integral part of the strategic plan, which says to me that the institution puts a high value on our work and research. That's enormously encouraging as it really points clearly to the direction we're going long-term. I can recruit faculty who will fit well and round out our efforts to be best-in-class in the nation."

On the future: "Given that we know what we're going to be strong in, we'll put resources where they'll be fruitful and create collaborative opportunities in the community, because community members will know who and what we are."



"Our plan means we have a clear map to who we are, what we're going to be and what we're going to be good at. Some institutions can spread resources too thin, but we're focusing on what we're good at and sticking with our strengths. That's a smart move for everybody: our students, faculty, staff, and community."

Harlan Jones, PhD

*Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences '01
Assistant Professor,
Molecular Biology and Immunology*

Today: "It's good to see that we're setting a benchmark for ourselves. The goals that we've set are definitely achievable, with even more accelerated growth in our future, enlarging our campus and faculty will help enrich the institutional experience as well as our already solid reputation."

On the future: "It doesn't seem all that long ago that our student body was pretty small. We've experienced healthy growth in academic and research capacity recently, but today's economic environment presents a host of challenges to that growth, especially in the research areas. Nevertheless, we need to be equally present as growth in the Fort Worth Cultural District continues, and the five-year strategy helps us to do exactly that."

"I've seen an unprecedented level of collaboration across departments and that will only increase as we continue to grow. The five-year plan gives that collaboration a huge boost by inspiring us to more creative ways of building strategies for interdisciplinary research and development."



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Erin Carlson, MPH

Third-year DrPH student, School of Public Health; Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Community Health

Today: "As we strengthen relationships with community partners in Tarrant County and throughout North Texas, we not only expand our potential to provide needed services to our community, but we also position ourselves to benefit from community engagement through increased visibility among potential students and collaborators."

On the future: "The five-year strategy means everyone has the opportunity to be part of a growing and vibrant institution. This plan unites all Health Science Center members with a common vision of the desired end result, while concurrently providing each individual department or office with concrete steps to contribute toward reaching that goal."

"Personally, the five-year strategy strengthens my confidence in my education with the knowledge that my school not only articulates a desire to improve and grow, but demonstrates its commitment to continued improvement through setting forth measurable steps to reach long-term goals."



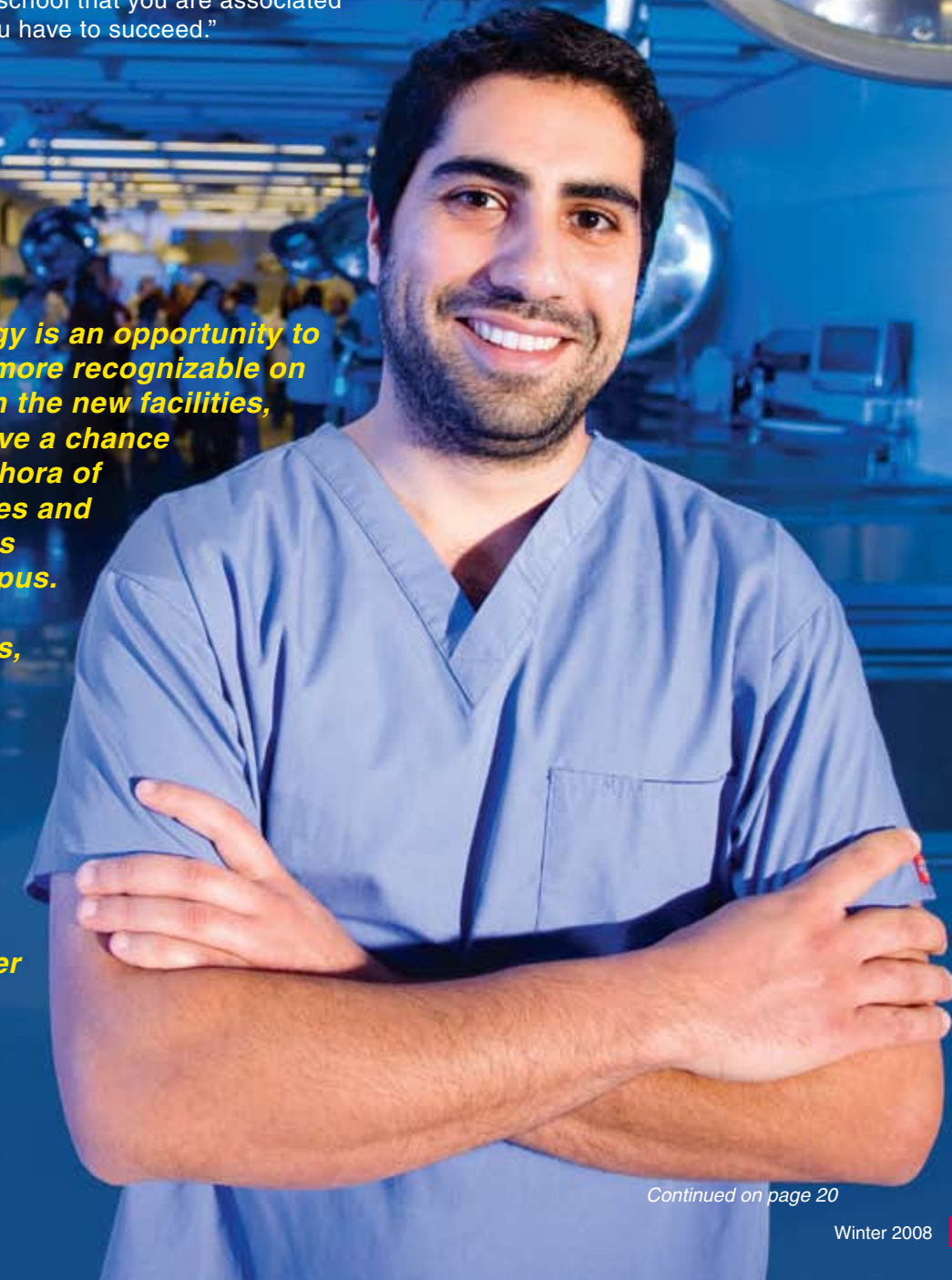
Amir Barzin, MS

*Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences '08
President, TCOM Class of 2012*

Today: "With the projected improvements to the buildings and roads around campus, the community will recognize the importance of the contributions we make. And expanding class sizes and faculty will give more people in Tarrant County a chance to call the Health Science Center home."

On the future: "Our growth will help boost our rankings and bring more national attention to TCOM and the Health Science Center. Anytime you can improve the national perception of the school that you are associated with, the more chances you have to succeed."

"The five-year strategy is an opportunity to make our programs more recognizable on a national level. With the new facilities, the university will have a chance to showcase the plethora of research opportunities and educational programs available on the campus. And the projected growth of the campus, not to mention the new programs that are scheduled to begin, will give more students a chance to expand on the already strong reputation that the Health Science Center has established. The growth is really amazing and I'm excited to see how it all plays out."

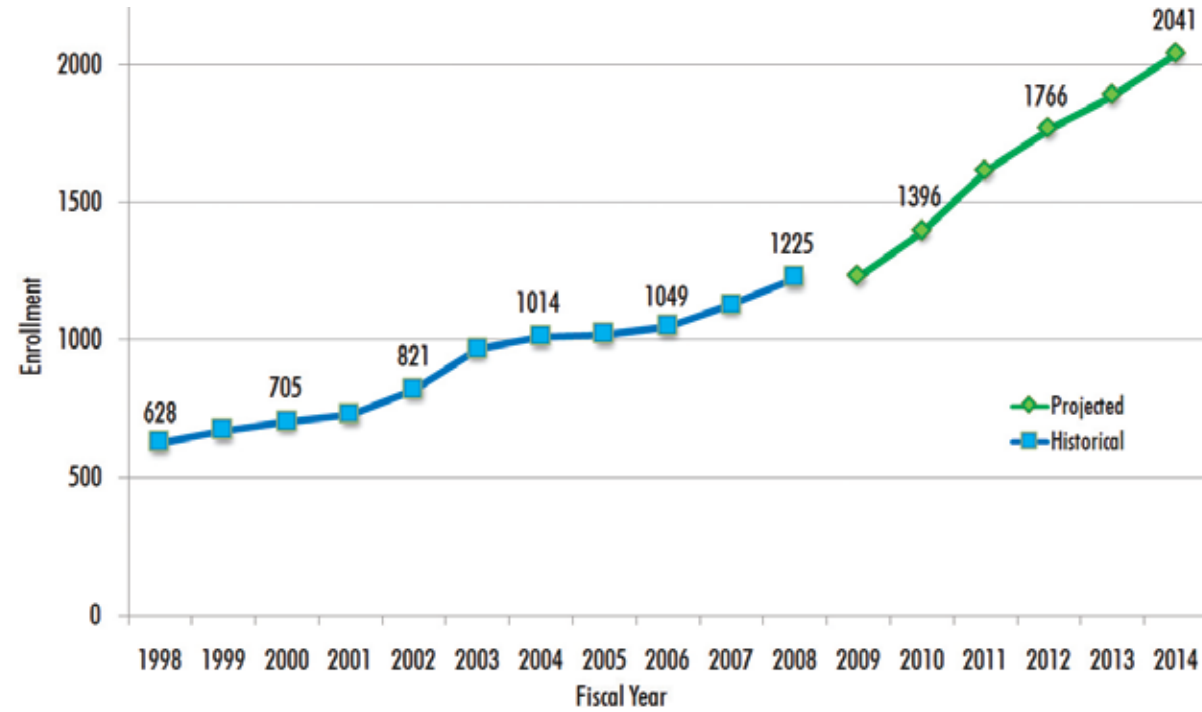


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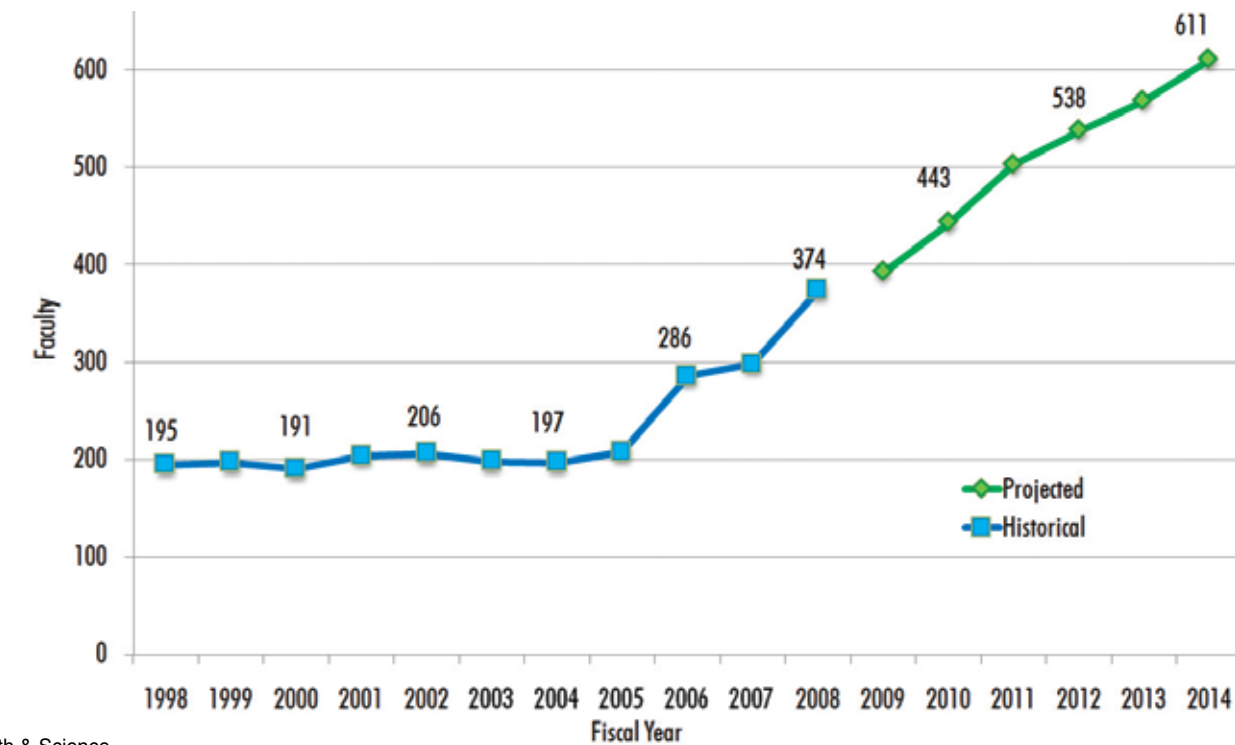
Charting our Course to the Future

Dramatic increases in operational capability – that’s the ultimate goal of our strategic five-year plan. As seen in the accompanying charts, three major areas are targeted for significant increases: academics (both student body and faculty), research and clinical care. And as our trajectory heads north, so too will our already-strong reputation for educational excellence, innovative exploration of health care’s most challenging mysteries, and healthier outcomes for our community. 🏠

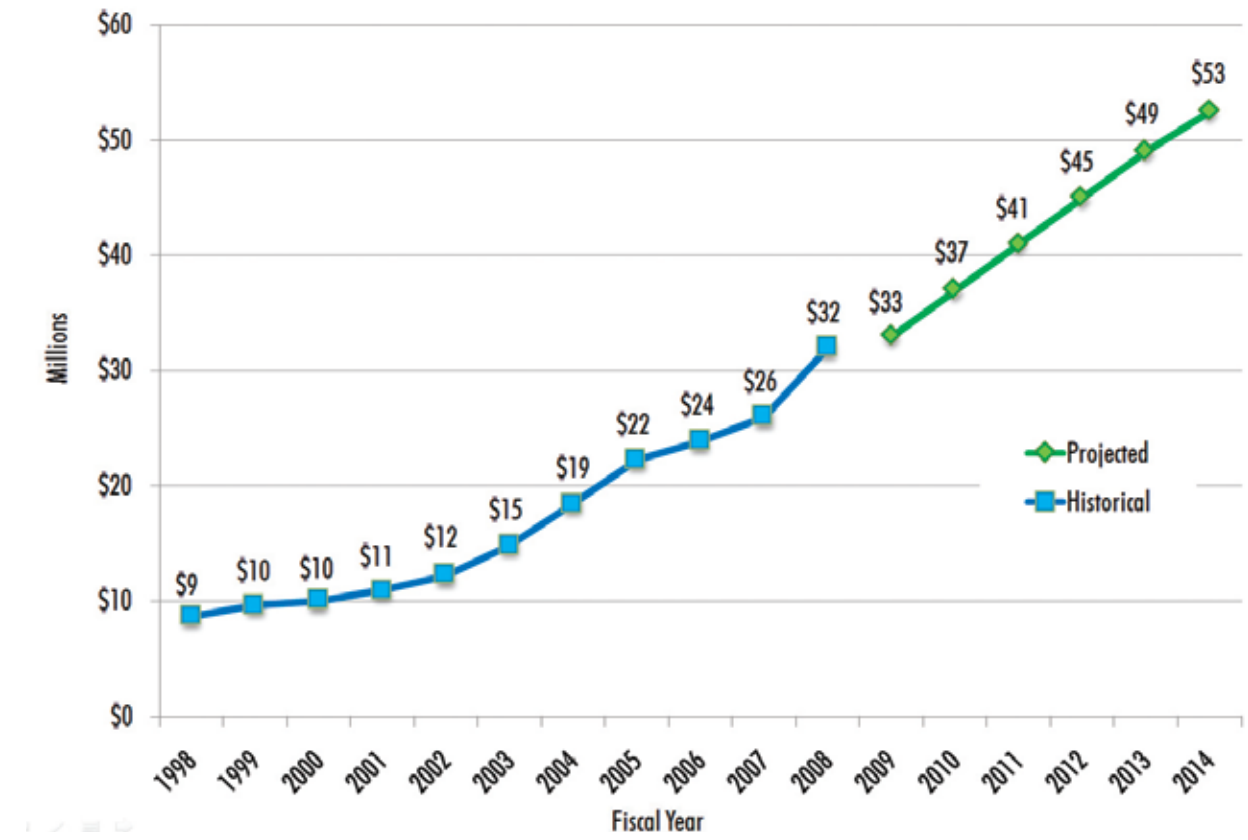
UNTHSC Fall Historical Enrollment and Projected Growth



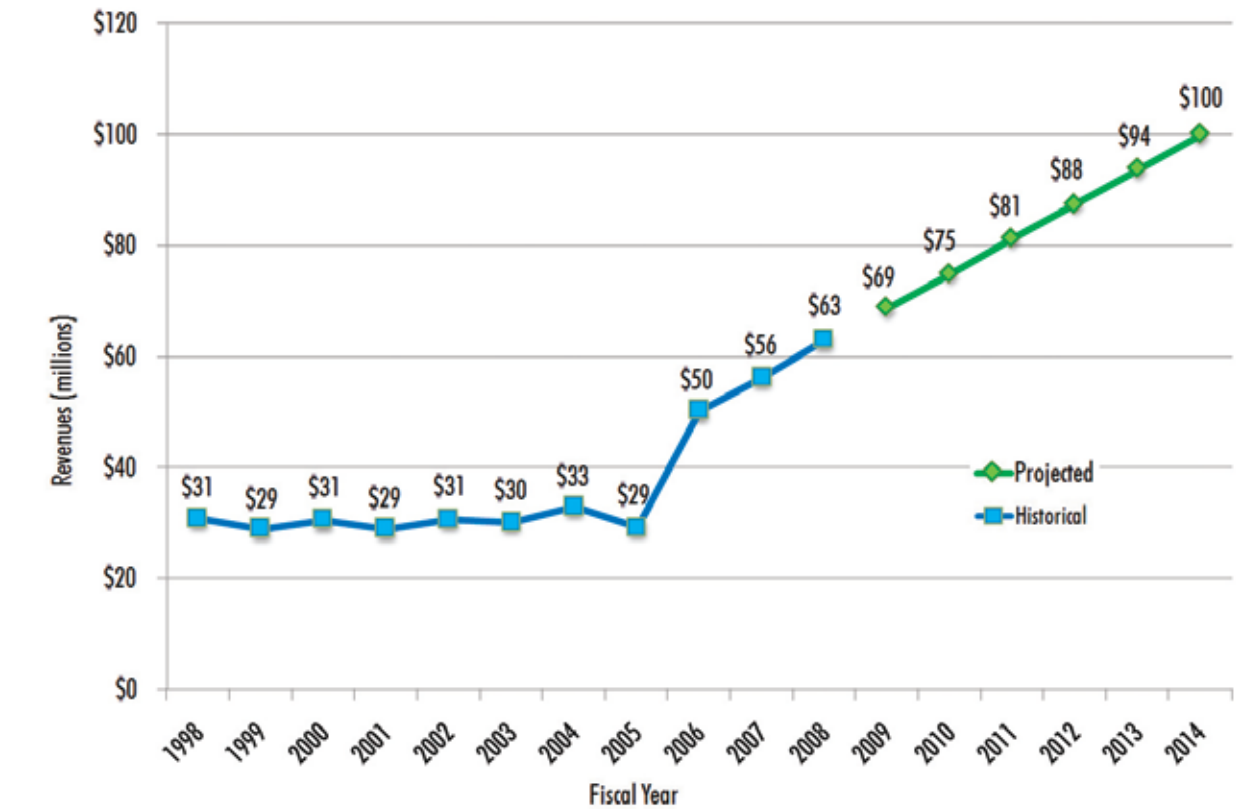
UNTHSC Historical Faculty Count and Projected Growth



UNTHSC Historical Research Expenditures & Projected Growth



UNT Health Historical Clinical Revenues and Projected Growth




NEWS

UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Sumedh Mankar receives his white coat from Bruce Dubin, DO, JD, associate dean of Academic Affairs for TCOM.

Students enter profession at White Coat Ceremony

 New student doctors and physician assistants put on their white coats for the first time at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) annual White Coat Ceremony Sept. 12. After being "cloaked" in their white coats – a symbol of their profession – students took an oath acknowledging their responsibilities as medical professionals.

Kathleen Forbes, MD, president of UNT Health and executive vice president for Clinical Affairs and Business Development, welcomed the students as her new colleagues in her keynote address. Amir Barzin, TCOM class of 2012 president, presented the student address.

The Health Science Center gave its most prestigious awards during the ceremony. Mark Baker, DO (TCOM '76), president of North Texas Radiology, UNTHSC Foundation Board member, and UNTHSC Board of Visitors member, received the Founders' Medal. T. Eugene Zachary, DO, emeritus TCOM dean and professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, received the Mary E. Luibel Distinguished Service Award.

New appointments announced



Thomas Yorio, PhD, executive vice president for Academic Affairs and Research, has been named provost of the UNT Health Science Center. Dr. Yorio will serve as chief academic officer and will provide overall direction for all academic programs and research. He will also continue his role as executive vice president of Academic Affairs.

Since joining the Health Science Center in 1977, Dr. Yorio has held several positions including professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, founding dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and interim dean of the School of Public Health.



Abbot (Abe) Clark, PhD, was named director of the North Texas Eye Research Institute. Dr. Clark has served as an adjunct professor in the departments of Cell Biology and Genetics and Pharmacology and Neuroscience at the Health Science Center for more than 20 years. This year, he joined the Health Science Center faculty as professor of Cell Biology and Genetics and director of the Visual Sciences Program.



Glenn H. Dillon, PhD, was named vice president of Research. In this new position, Dr. Dillon will facilitate and oversee all aspects of research conducted at the Health Science Center, help formulate the institution's strategic plan for research and work to enhance research collaborations. He joined UNTHSC in 1994 and has served in many capacities, most recently as associate vice president for Research. A professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, Dr. Dillon will continue to teach, mentor graduate students and direct a research lab.



Thomas Moorman, EdD, was promoted to vice president of Student Affairs. In his new role, Dr. Moorman reports to the provost and oversees all student-related services. He has been with UNTHSC since 1994.



Renee Drabier, PhD, was named vice president for Information Resources and Technology. Dr. Drabier will report to the provost and will oversee the Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library, Academic Information Services, Information Technology and Biomedical Communications. Prior to joining the Health Science Center, she served as assistant vice president of Health Informatics and associate dean of Health Informatics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

TCOM leadership changes



Alan Podawiltz, DO, MS, was appointed to serve as acting dean of TCOM. Dr. Podawiltz, who is currently chair and assistant professor in the Psychiatry Department, has been with the Health Science Center since 2003. He is also chair of Psychiatry for John Peter Smith Health Network and training director for the American Osteopathic Association's Psychiatry Residency Program at John Peter Smith Hospital. A member of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association since 2002, Dr. Podawiltz assumes the responsibilities of Marc Hahn, DO, TCOM dean and senior vice president of Health Affairs, who has stepped down.



Bruce Dubin, DO, JD, was promoted to serve in a new position, vice dean of TCOM. In this capacity, Dr. Dubin will be responsible for all areas of TCOM academic affairs and educational programs, including pre-clinical curriculum, clinical education, graduate medical education, and admissions and outreach. Dr. Dubin, previously TCOM associate dean for Academic Affairs, has been with the Health Science Center since 2003 and was named Educator of the Year by the AOA in 2007.



Robert Adams, DO, has agreed to assume the position of vice president/ chief medical officer for UNT Health. Dr. Adams previously served as TCOM senior associate dean of Clinical Affairs and chief medical officer for UNT Health. Dr. Adams will continue his faculty and clinical role in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Joel Daboub, MBA, has been promoted to assistant dean for Admissions and Outreach for both the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the School of Health Professions. In this new capacity, he will be responsible for all areas of admissions for the medical school, Department of Physician Assistant Studies and the developing physical therapy degree program. Daboub, currently the director of Admissions and Outreach for TCOM, has been with the Health Science Center since 2004.

TCOM departments reorganize

To better serve students and patients, TCOM's Department of Family and Community Medicine will be re-organized into two separate departments -- the Department of Family Medicine and the Department of Community Medicine.



Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH, has been named acting chair of the Department of Family Medicine. Dr. Cardarelli, a 2001 dual-degree graduate of TCOM and the School of Public Health, is currently associate professor of Family and Community Medicine and executive director and founder of the Primary Care Research Institute/NorTex. He has been with the Health Science Center since 2004.

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Robert Richard, DO, has been named acting chair of the new Department of Community Medicine. Dr. Richard, a 1990 TCOM graduate, is currently assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. He has been with the

Health Science Center since 2005 and JPS Health Network since 1994.

The Department of Family Medicine will continue to serve patients at the Patient Care Center, Eagle Ranch Clinic, Westside Clinic and others, as well as support the education of our students and create knowledge through research. The Department of Community Medicine works with the Tarrant County Hospital District to provide direct patient care services across Tarrant County.

The TCOM Department of Medical Education will expand under Dr. Bruce Dubin with the addition of the Department of Pathology faculty. The Center for Human Identification will now be a part of the Health Institutes of Texas as an independent center.

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies will move to the School of Health Professions. The department will continue to collaborate with the faculty of TCOM, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and UNT Health; however, it will have independent leadership to better respond to student needs, substantially expand faculty and create a top physician assistant studies curriculum. Hank Lemke, MMS, PA-C, will continue to serve as chair of the department and director of Physician Assistant Studies.

With this change, the School of Health Professions under Dean Warren Anderson, EdD, now includes the Department of Physician Assistant Studies and the Department of Physical Therapy, chaired by Clayton Holmes, PT, EdD, ATC.

Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Awards Grant

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation announced that its board of trustees has approved 10 grants, totaling almost \$20 million, to strengthen physician's geriatrics training across the United States. President Steven L. Anderson made the announcement from the Foundation's Las Vegas headquarters on Nov. 14, 2008. The grants will support comprehensive projects in academic health centers to train medical students, residents and practicing physicians in geriatrics.



The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation award grant to UNTHSC will help geriatric patients in North Texas. Pictured: Janice Knebl, DO, MBA, Distinguished Chair of Clinical Geriatrics and Chief, Division of Geriatrics, UNTHSC Department of Internal Medicine, with patient.

Fred W. Smith, chairman of the Foundation's board of trustees, announced, "The Reynolds Foundation has now committed almost \$80 million under this initiative. The Foundation's goal is to improve the quality of health care for elderly people across America by preparing physicians to address their special needs. The trustees and I are proud of the work that the Foundation's grantees have conducted thus far and look forward to the accomplishments of this new group of exciting projects."

The awards represent the fourth group of grants under the Foundation's Aging and Quality of Life program. The Foundation's trustees awarded the first group of 10 grants in April 2001, totaling \$19.1 million. Second and third groups of 10 academic health centers were awarded grants totaling \$19.8 million in July 2003 and \$19.9 million in May 2006.

The Aging and Quality of Life program was conceived by the Foundation in response to a growing consensus that physicians lack adequate training to meet the increasing needs of the frail elderly patient. Such patients typically suffer from multiple, interactive physical and psychosocial conditions – both acute and chronic – that compromise their capacity to function in daily life

and lessen their independence. "Since this is our fourth group of grantees under this initiative, we weren't sure new grantees could come up with fresh innovations to translate into improved care for frail elders throughout the United States. But we found that the projects keep getting better," said Dr. Anderson.

Forty-eight academic health centers applied for grants in response to a call for proposals from the Foundation in November 2007. With the assistance of a panel of geriatrics experts, 10 were chosen. The institutions selected and grant amounts are as follows:

- Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC - \$2,000,000
- University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL - \$2,000,000
- University of California, Irvine, CA - \$1,999,994
- University of Massachusetts, Worcester, MA - \$1,983,066
- University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, NJ - \$1,998,421
- **University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX - \$1,998,504**
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA - \$1,939,517
- University of Texas, Houston, TX - \$2,000,000
- University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX - \$1,994,480
- Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC - \$1,994,741

A broad range of training activities will be supported under the grants. For example, the University of North Texas Health Science Center will develop a program focused heavily on establishing a geriatrics faculty development program for rural osteopathic faculty and on developing geriatrics continuing medical education programs for practicing physicians.

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation is a national philanthropic organization founded in 1954 by the late media entrepreneur for whom it is named. Headquartered in Las Vegas, Nev., it is one of the largest private foundations in the United States. ■

Fore!

HEADS UP... The President's Invitational Golf Tournament will be held this spring at Ridglea Country Club and will benefit the UNT Health Science Center. This fun community event is a creative opportunity for you and your company to gain recognition and enjoy the links with colleagues and clients while supporting a great community resource. For additional information, please contact Jen Pendell at 817-735-2430 or Susan Smith at 817-735-2174.

<http://www.hsc.unt.edu/invitational>



The President's Invitational Tournament

In Memoriam



Pamela Deese, wife of UNTHSC Foundation Board member Michael Deese, passed away at home Nov. 14, 2008. Both Michael and Pamela have been generous in their endorsement of the cancer research of Sanjay Awasthi, MD, associate vice president for Clinical Research and professor, Molecular Biology and Immunology at the Health Science Center.

Dr. Awasthi and his team of world-class cancer researchers continue to press forward with their promising research on a new cancer therapy drug that could potentially target myeloid leukemia, melanoma and cancers of the prostate, ovaries, lung and colon. Studies have shown impressive effectiveness in blocking RLLIP, a key signaling molecule. Dr. Awasthi's team is working with the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) to secure approval for Phase I Clinical Trials.

Pamela composed this poem as a symbol of her battle with cancer:

Transformations

Behold the caterpillar
Fat, fleshy, green glutton
Inexplicably shriveling, browning, and becoming
as if dead.
It has no inkling of its coming transformation into a
stained-glass creature of light and grace.
Living out each perfect moment in a world of sweet
fragrance, color and nectar
Delighting in the warmth of the sun on its wings.
Even the summer breeze celebrates, gently
directing the butterfly along in its unhurried
and effortless journey of joy.
Do not flee change in fear of what you think you
will lose.
Accept the transformations that come your way in
the knowledge that some adventures cannot be
experienced without the release of the old.

Pamela requested that any remembrances take the form of a donation to Dr. Awasthi's cancer research by sending a gift to:

UNTHSC Foundation
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., EAD 802
Fort Worth, TX 76107
or call 817-735-5044

Note: "Deese" on donation forms and checks.



Fourth-year medical student **Makasha Colonvega, DC**, and her husband, Pablo, passed away on Dec. 7, 2008. Makasha was one of the most loved individuals in her class. She aspired to residency training in dermatology and was looking forward to the Military Match in mid-December. She was

recognized with the TCOM Alumni Academic Award of Excellence in 2007 and 2008.

An outstanding student who actively participated in research, she was published in the *Journal of Manipulative & Physiological Therapeutics* as well as in *Chiropractic & Osteopathy*, and presented at the Eighth Annual International Conference on Spinal Manipulations. The Colonvegas are survived by their two 8-year-old children.

The Health Science Center Foundation is accepting donations for her family:

UNTHSC Foundation
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., EAD 802
Fort Worth, TX 76107
or call 817-735-5044

Note: "Other: Colonvega" on donation forms and checks.



Linda F. Holding, residency program coordinator for Psychiatry at John Peter Smith Hospital, passed away on Dec. 7, 2008. She began her career with JPS in 1992 as a staff assistant and was named residency program coordinator in 2001. In this position, she made sure fourth-year medical

students had a smooth initiation into the psychiatry rotation, and she facilitated the student and faculty evaluation programs.

Linda was known for her professionalism and the easy rapport she quickly established among those she worked with and always made time for anyone who dropped by to visit with her. She was a wife, mother and grandmother.

Anyone who wishes to make a memorial may send a donation to the Health Science Center Foundation's Psychiatry Development Fund:

UNTHSC Foundation
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., EAD 802
Fort Worth, TX 76107
or call 817-735-5044

Note: "Linda Holding" on donation forms and checks.

IN the COMMUNITY

Health Science Center and UNT Health join Frogs for the Cure

For the second consecutive year, the Health Science Center and UNT Health participated in Texas Christian University's "Frogs for the Cure" on Oct. 16 at TCU's Amon G. Carter Stadium. Before the game against Brigham Young University, volunteers from the Health Science Center and UNT Health raised breast cancer awareness by distributing an army of pink weepuls. Both the Health Science Center and UNT Health logos were displayed on the scoreboard during the game. Jean Tips, vice president of Marketing and Communications, highlighted the Health Science Center in an interview during the game broadcast on 88.7 FM KTCU radio.



Photo courtesy of NASA

Health Science Center helps Hurricane Ike evacuees


In the early hours of Sept. 13, 2008, Hurricane Ike rumbled through Galveston, the Bolivar Peninsula and Houston, leaving destruction in its wake. Thankfully, most residents evacuated before the hurricane hit, fleeing to shelters across Texas, including several in Tarrant and Dallas counties.

Health Science Center doctors, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants and students were ready to help by treating, testing and caring for evacuees in shelters across the Metroplex. Employees also contributed more than \$5,000 to the Tarrant Area Food Bank to shore up supplies depleted by the disaster. 🇺🇸



The Strategy of Quality Healthcare

Imagine trying to thread a needle – while holding the thread as you’re driving 20 mph past the needle. So it is, as healthcare tries to focus on long-term planning for a system that will undoubtedly transform in the next few years.

 For UNT Health, the physician group affiliated with the Health Science Center and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the moving target has not deterred development of its own five-year strategic

plan. Together with the Health Science Center’s overarching five-year strategy, the combination of the two plans will mesh to form a sustainable advantage for patients and new physicians being trained to treat them.

Key components of the plan are directed to four areas: quality and clinical care; finance; growth and community partnerships; and people.

Among the components of quality and clinical care are development of clinical pathways, including measurable and specific criteria for treatment of disease states such as diabetes, depression in

adults, colorectal screenings and osteoporosis. (In a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the incidence of diabetes among Americans has doubled in just 10 years. Texas was noted as having the highest incidence of diabetes: 11 cases for every 1,000 people).

Multidisciplinary approaches will be available to patients, making them the center of all patient care efforts. New endeavors, like group medical visits for patients with long-term chronic diseases such as diabetes, will bring the full spectrum of healthcare providers together to cover every facet of disease management.

None of these efforts would be appreciated if focus weren’t also placed on service excellence programs, making certain the patient’s total experience exceeds expectations.

Making high-quality patient care more efficient internally, implementation of UNT Health’s electronic medical record will be expanded in the 2008-2012 time frame.

No margin, no mission

Revenue growth for the physician group will help maintain the level of capital needed to continue providing high-quality patient care, while also serving as a funding source for the medical school. An important factor in the financial goals is to easily and transparently make financial documentation that satisfies general audit standards.

Proper financial growth will also allow for planning and coordination with the committees of the UNT Health Board, including business development, new technology and clinical services, as well as the finance and budget committee. Appropriate clinic development sites, expansion of services, joint partnership opportunities and investment in new technology will be supported by the financial goals for the plan.

The support of a new physical therapy program at the Health Science Center and continued work with the Physician Assistant Studies program will lead to relevant and complementary opportunities with the Fort Worth medical community.



Rahul Patel, MD, assistant professor of Internal Medicine (Rheumatology) consults with Kathryn Lawson, DO, (Rheumatology fellow) at the UNT Health Patient Care Center.

In addition, continuing and optimizing partnerships with the JPS Health Network, Harris Methodist Hospitals, Cook Children’s, Plaza Medical Center, the Bureau of Prisons and other healthcare partners will strengthen the quality of care afforded to our neighbors in Tarrant County.

Leadership understands that to become Tarrant County’s healthcare employer of choice, people must be the foundation. To that end, professional development programs for staff and physicians are also critical elements of the five-year plan.

Certainly, not all goals will be implemented in the first year. UNT Health knows the journey to excellence is not merely a sprint, just like their role as a signature presenting sponsor of Fort Worth’s Cowtown Marathon, is not merely a sprint. But, when the map is as detailed as the five-year plan, the destination is never in doubt. ■

Applause!

ADVANCEMENT *update*

TCOM grads do it again:

Highest scores in U.S. on board exams

The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) Class of 2008 scored best in the nation on the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX) Level 2 for the second consecutive year. The class had a 100 percent pass rate on the exam. In June, the TCOM Class of 2009's COMLEX 1 performance was also top in the nation.

John C. Licciardone, DO, professor and executive director of the Osteopathic Research Center (ORC), was named associate dean for clinical research in TCOM. As associate dean, Dr. Licciardone will oversee existing research and research collaborations inside and outside of the Health Science Center, and will focus on growth and development of the research program. He continues his roles as professor, executive director of the ORC and osteopathic clinical research chair for the Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Department.

James Simpkins, PhD, chair and professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, is the newest member of the American Aging Association (AGE) board. AGE is a non-profit organization that promotes research in aging. And in September, Dr. Simpkins' research appeared in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS), a multidisciplinary scientific serial that publishes cutting-edge research reports.

Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and the Health Science Center's Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Collaborative Summer Training Program in Prostate Cancer, were highlighted in a recent U.S. Department of Defense magazine.

Lisa Hodge, PhD, assistant professor of Molecular Biology and Immunology and Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Basic Science Research chair at the ORC, received the Established Researcher Award at the International Conference on Advances in Osteopathic Research in Bradenton, Fla., in September. Dr. Hodge presented her research exploring the impact of osteopathic manipulation

on the mobilization of lymphocytes and the possible role in health. This work was a result of collaboration with Dr. Fred Downey in the Department of Physiology, and Dr. Hollis King and Dr. Scott Stoll in the ORC.

Elena Bastida, PhD, associate dean for research, School of Public Health, was highlighted in the November 2008 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health* for her research on "Persistent Disparities in the Use of Health Care Along the U.S.-Mexico Border: An Ecological Perspective."

Rohit Ojha, SPH student, was awarded the "Student Prize Paper Award" for 2008 at the American College of Epidemiology annual meeting in Tucson, Ariz. The award, "Best Subset Selection and Trend Analysis for Optimizing the Discriminatory Accuracy of Diagnostic Models," was the only one awarded to a student.

Fang Fang Zhang, MD, PhD, assistant professor of Epidemiology, received a \$243,202 grant from Susan G. Komen for the Cure for her breast cancer research. The grant is part of the largest commitment of breast cancer research funding by a single nonprofit organization and targets 81 universities and hospitals in 27 states and five countries.

Texas OPTI (Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institutions) at the Health Science Center received Blue Ribbon OPTI recognition from the American Osteopathic Association. The program, an educational consortium committed to the advancement of osteopathic postdoctoral training, "met with excellence" on all four qualifying standards for the recognition.

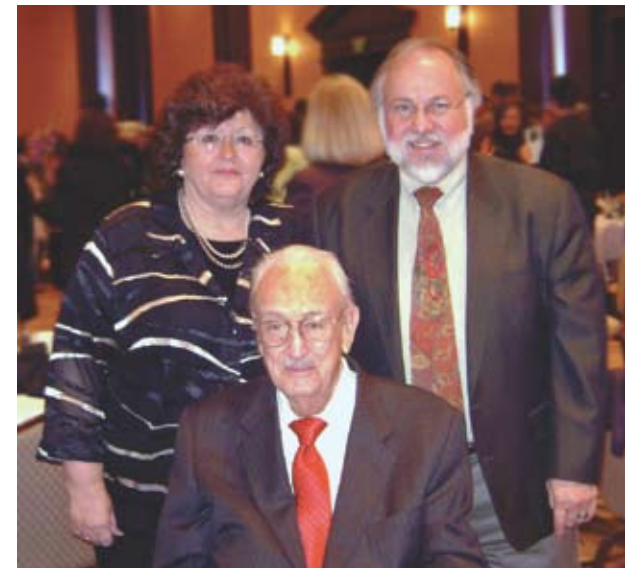
Shrawan Kumar, PhD, professor and co-director of the Physical Medicine Institute, was named associate editor of PM&R, the new official journal of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Karan Singh, PhD, professor and chair of Biostatistics, was invited to serve as a member of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure's Prevention and Risk Reduction scientific peer review committee. Dr. Singh will serve a three-year term on the committee. ■



UNT Health Science Center philanthropists honored

The Fort Worth Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) hosted its annual Philanthropy Day Luncheon on Nov. 6, 2008, at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel in Fort Worth. The event is designed to give recognition and appreciation to individuals in the local community who have made a significant impact on their chosen organizations through philanthropy. Among this year's honorees were three extremely well-known and respected supporters of the UNT Health Science Center: Dr. Carl E. Everett, co-founder of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine; and Elena and Dr. Thomas Yorio.



Elena and Dr. Thomas Yorio with Dr. Carl E. Everett at AFP luncheon.

2008 Campus Pride annual giving campaign breaks record

The October 2008 Campus Pride annual giving campaign clearly hit the mark with faculty and staff as an opportunity to show their spirit and advance the mission of the Health Science Center. The month-long "Breaking New Ground: Can You Dig It?" campaign resulted in an astonishing 83 percent participation rate, well above the hoped-for rate of 70 percent.



The Office of Institutional Advancement shows its spirit at a Campus Pride kick-off event.

"We could not have achieved this without the help of our 95 team captains and the 1,051 employees who generously donated," said Greg Upp, senior vice president for Community Engagement, at a recent wrap-up appreciation lunch. "Your dedication is a solid vote of confidence in the mission and direction of our institution." Upp also noted that the high participation rate of this year's campaign positions the Health Science Center in the top-10 percentile of employee giving in higher education institutions across the nation.

Ali Winters, employee of Integrative Physiology, and team captain Minnie Zavala of the Compliance Office, both won drawings for week-long, all-inclusive timeshare vacations in Cancun, Mexico. Karen Caddell, a team captain of Internal Medicine, won a pizza party for her team's 100% participation.

Continued on page 32

To Your Health Unmasking Discoveries

2008 Gala Successfully Showcases Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

On Oct. 25, 2008, at the Worthington Hotel in downtown Fort Worth, the Health Science Center hosted an enthusiastic gathering of more than 600 friends and supporters, all on hand to celebrate the distinguished 15-year history of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS).

At the Gala, GSBS highlighted its outstanding record of excellence in educating generations of promising young scientists and conducting critical research in areas such as Alzheimer's, cancer, human DNA identification, vision, primary care, osteopathic medicine, cardiovascular disease, and more. Also noted were the multiple educational programs designed to encourage interest in the fields of science and research among young students in local school districts.

The formal black tie (and mask) evening event featured pre-reception entertainment by the Rock of Sports and Performing Arts group under the artistic direction of Tina Rusinovich and Holly Lee. Later in the evening, guests danced to the lively music of "The Party Crashers." Guests also participated in a silent auction.

Overall, the Gala raised \$206,000 in financial support for the school, which goes to sustain its historic growth, recruit top faculty and students, support world-class research and provide scholarships and program support.



Dr. JK Vishwanatha, President Scott B. Ransom, and Dr. Thomas Yorio toast the 15th anniversary of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.



George W. Pepper receives the inaugural Visionary Award from Dr. Scott Ransom.



The event's theme was Unmasking Discoveries and featured masquerade themed decorations.



Gala committee members show elegance and flair: From L: Diane Bradley, Pam Marshall, Aleta Wheeler, Co-Chair Elena Yorio, Co-Chair Annita Benz, Co-Chair Lavi Vishwanatha, Michelle West, Shea Patterson-Young, Carla J. Lee, & Jen Pendell



Reception included a juggling act, acrobats and performers.



Guests enjoyed music from *The Party Crashers*.

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+

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Clay W. Gilbert
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Osteopathic Heritage Foundation
Sid W. Richardson Foundation

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*deceased

Donor Honor Roll *Annual Giving*

Listed below are our wonderful Annual Donors for the past fiscal year (Sept. 1, 2007 – Aug. 31, 2008). For all those whose names appear below, please accept our sincere gratitude for believing in our organization and giving us the privilege of serving the educational, research, clinical, and community engagement needs of Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

President's Cabinet, Diamond \$10,000+

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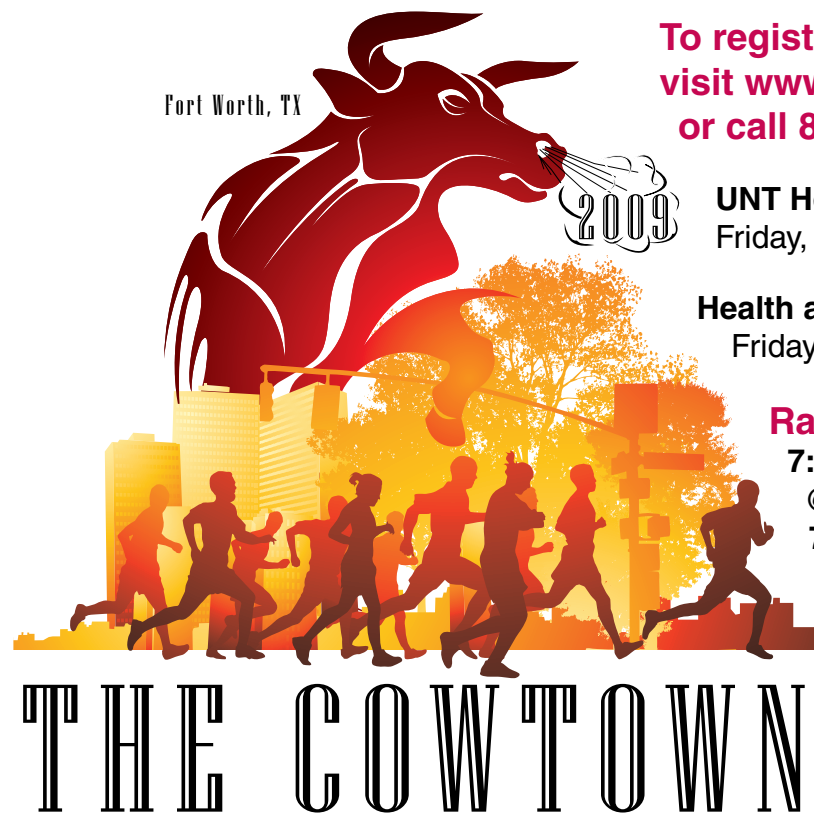
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Friday, February 27 4-8pm

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 @ 4th and Houston Streets
7:30am: 10K
 @ 2nd and Throckmorton
8:15am: Adults 5k
 @ 1st and Commerce
9am: Kids 5K
 @ 1st and Commerce

Good luck runners!

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January 19
Martin Luther King Holiday
Administrative offices closed

January 24 – 25
Board of Visitors Meeting
UNTHSC Campus

February 3
Career Fair
4:00 p.m.
Atrium

February 19
Fort Worth Chamber West Area Council Lunch
10:30 a.m.
Atrium

February 26
Cowtown Marathon Kick-off Reception
5:30 p.m.
Atrium

February 28
Cowtown Marathon
Sundance Square, Fort Worth

March 6
Research Appreciation Day
8:30 a.m. – Poster Presentations
Fort Worth Community Arts Center

12:15 p.m. – Luncheon, Keynote and Oral Presentations
Alcon Auditorium, UNTHSC Center for BioHealth

April 2-3
North Texas Health Forum
"Prevention & Control of Asthma"
Location - TBD

April 6 – 12
National Public Health Week
Multiple functions throughout the week

April 7 (tentative)
President's Invitational Golf Tournament
11:00 a.m.
Ridglea Country Club

April 24
9th Annual TCOM Alumni Association Specialty Round Table
5:00 p.m.
Atrium

SPH Student Awards Banquet
6:00 p.m.
Hilton, Fort Worth

May 1 – 2
PA 10 Year Reunion
UNTHSC

May 16
Commencement
2:00 p.m.
Fort Worth Convention Center Arena and Ballroom

Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
Reunion Weekend
Classes of:
1979 • 1984 • 1989 • 1994 • 1999 • 2004

Save the Date

September 11-12, 2009

Physician Assistant Studies
Reunion and 10th Anniversary Celebration

Save the Date

May 1, 2009

If you are interested in attending these events, please contact the Alumni Office: 817-735-2278 or email us at alumni@hsc.unt.edu

For more information about any news item or event, please e-mail news@hsc.unt.edu.

FROM *the* ARCHIVES



Our founders – D.D. Beyer, DO, George Luibel, DO, and Carl Everett, DO – presented these goals for TCOM at the 1969 Texas Osteopathic Medical Association convention in Dallas.

- To provide a four-year postgraduate course in medical education, leading to the granting of the DO degree
- To graduate 64 physicians annually, commencing in 1974
- To conduct research in basic science and clinical applications of the osteopathic concepts of medicine
- To provide health services to the community through the college hospital and clinics
- To provide training for personnel in the allied health professions
- To provide opportunity for postdoctoral and continuing education for practicing physicians and allied health professions personnel

