

# NORTH TEXAS HEALTH & SCIENCE

Winter 2009 - 2010

The Quarterly Magazine of UNT Health Science Center



## Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

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## Introducing Don Peska, DO

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# MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT

Since our world poses no end of mysteries, it's fitting that the more we learn, the more we discover what we don't know. And what separates mere curiosity from accumulated wisdom is the ability to understand how best to apply our hard-won knowledge to build on our discoveries.

This ability to harness our innate curiosity about nature's endless mysteries is at the heart of humanity's concept of "research." And it's all in a day's work for the talented researchers and scientists at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, as they apply their accumulated wisdom and relentless curiosity to solving today's vexing medical problems.

Research is just one of the core capabilities driving our institution to become a top-10 health science center. In these pages, you'll get a closer look at the outstanding achievements of our Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS). As scientists, sleuths, explorers and pioneers, the people of GSBS work to answer perplexing medical questions through the application of the natural sciences (especially the biological and physiological sciences) to clinical medicine. Students master the biomedical sciences while working hand-in-hand with internationally known faculty researchers, taking on some of the world's most challenging health conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, infectious diseases, vision disease and Alzheimer's disease.

Also in this issue, you'll read about the efforts of GSBS's Brian Gladue, PhD, and his team as they create the nation's first master's level Clinical Research Management degree program with a special focus on the regulatory aspects of human research protection.

You'll also get an in-depth look at what GSBS is doing to help potential medical students get a leg up on qualifying for medical school. The Master of Science in Medical Sciences program helps students enhance their qualifications for medical school. You'll meet Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) student Kristen Taylor, who tutors program participants.

You'll learn about our Primary Care Research Institute and the work it's doing to help physicians diagnose a little-known dementia.

And who can resist the story about how Jane Scott, DO ('81), reached a stunning personal milestone: bringing baby number 4,000 into the world? You'll also meet the new TCOM dean, Don Peska (DO, MEd) as he discusses his commitment to collaboration and building consensus and how that powers his vision for success at the nation's best osteopathic medical school.

This issue, like all our others, amply demonstrates how we're working to know the unknown and move our discoveries from the theoretical to the practical – "from bench to bedside" – in as timely and efficient a way as possible. We hope you enjoy the journey!

As always, please feel free to e-mail me with your comments and suggestions at [sransom@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:sransom@hsc.unt.edu). I look forward to hearing from you!



Scott B. Ransom, DO, MBA, MPH



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University of North Texas  
Health Science Center  
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76107  
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**Executive Editor:** Jean Tips ([jtips@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:jtips@hsc.unt.edu))

**Managing Editor:** Cari Hyden ([chyden@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:chyden@hsc.unt.edu))  
**Production Manager:** Amy Buresh ([aburesh@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:aburesh@hsc.unt.edu))  
**Contributors:** Dana Benton Russell ([drussell@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:drussell@hsc.unt.edu))  
Sally Crocker ([scrocker@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:scrocker@hsc.unt.edu))  
Matt Havlik ([mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu))  
Brian Melton ([bmelton@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:bmelton@hsc.unt.edu))  
Randy Sachs ([rsachs@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:rsachs@hsc.unt.edu))

**Photography:** Dana Benton Russell ([drussell@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:drussell@hsc.unt.edu))  
Deborah Brashear ([dbrashea@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:dbrashea@hsc.unt.edu))  
Jeremy Enlow - Steel Shutter Photography  
Matt Havlik ([mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu))  
Tommy Hawkes ([rhawkes@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:rhawkes@hsc.unt.edu))  
Jim Halley ([jhalley@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:jhalley@hsc.unt.edu))

**Art direction and design:** Carl Bluemel ([cbluemel@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:cbluemel@hsc.unt.edu))



# Scientists, sleuths, explorers and pioneers:

## The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences seeks answers to perplexing medical questions

**Biomedicine:** [BYE-oh-MED-uh-sun] The application of the natural sciences, especially the biological and physiological sciences, to clinical medicine.

The Health Science Center's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) is a key player in the center's mission to improve quality of life. Students master the biomedical sciences while working hand-in-hand with internationally known faculty researchers to attack some of the world's most challenging and tragic health conditions.

The GSBS has one of the most diverse student bodies in the state and offers one of the few master's degree programs in forensic genetics as well as master's degrees in biotechnology and clinical research management. Its master's and doctoral programs in the traditional sciences are geared toward transferring discoveries made at the laboratory bench to the patient's bedside.

The following pages showcase some of the school's top researchers, who are adding to the body of knowledge leading to cures and prevention of conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, infectious diseases, vision disease and Alzheimer's disease.

Also featured are its widely regarded program to prepare undergraduates for medical school and its innovative approach to ensuring all research conducted is ethical and scientifically sound, while protecting those participating as subjects.

### The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers MS and PhD degrees in Biomedical Sciences, and students may choose to specialize in:

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Cancer Biology
- Cardiovascular Science
- Cell Biology
- Integrative Physiology
- Microbiology and Immunology
- Neurobiology of Aging
- Pharmacology and Neuroscience
- Physical Medicine
- Structural Anatomy
- Visual Sciences
- Integrative Biomedical Science

### Specialized master's degrees are available in:

- Biotechnology
- Clinical Research Management
- Forensic Genetics
- Lab Animal Science
- Medical Sciences

### A degree in biomedical sciences prepares students for careers in:

- Health care industry
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Biotechnology companies
- Universities
- Health science centers



# How to make sure you have the right stuff for medical school

You've applied to medical school. What are the chances you'll be accepted?

Medical schools receive far more applications than they can accommodate, and only the best make the cut. Nationally, about one in two applicants are accepted. At the UNT Health Science Center's Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the chances are even smaller – approximately one in 10.

The Health Science Center's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers a Master of Medical Sciences program that enhances students' chances of being accepted by and to succeed in medical school. The medical sciences program offers a strong, challenging biomedical science curriculum for those who want to improve their qualifications for medical school.

***“The goal of this program is to give students the chance to build on their bachelor's degree in science, with an eye toward their successful completion of medical school.”***

**– Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD**

There are many programs that offer students an opportunity to improve their credentials before applying to medical school, but the Health Science Center's program is unique for two reasons:

- It confers a one-year Master of Science degree, while similar programs offer only a post-baccalaureate certificate, requiring fewer credits.
- Unlike most other programs, the Health Science Center provides coursework in structural anatomy.

Results? In the past nine years, nearly 100 percent of all students in the program who maintained a 3.5 grade point average or higher were accepted to medical schools. That's a great success rate.

Acceptance to this program is limited. Each year, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences receives approximately three applications for every available seat.

The 12-month degree pairs students with a physician for a “shadowing” experience and provides courses in biostatistics, health disparities, biochemistry, molecular cell biology, epidemiology,

physiology, pharmacology, clinical research, structural anatomy and ethics.

“The goal of this program is to give students the chance to build on their bachelor's degree in science, with an eye toward their successful completion of medical school,” said Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. “We believe if we can give these students this foundation to build on, not only will they successfully complete medical school, but they will also serve in those areas of Texas that are in most need of world-class medical professionals.”



Christian Dean (above) and Amir Barzin (below), both members of TCOM's class of 2012, were accepted to medical school after completing the master's degree in Medical Sciences at UNTHSC.





# Master of Medical Sciences degree helped aspiring physician prove medical school readiness

Kristen Taylor knows well the difficulties of getting into medical school. Even after graduating from UNT with a biology degree, working in a hospital and completing a medical mission trip in Malawi, Africa, she still wasn't admitted.



"I was devastated," she said, and feared her dream of becoming a physician was slipping away – but only until she enrolled in the Health Science Center's Master of Medical Sciences program in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. She was among the 10 percent of applicants admitted.

She applied one week before the deadline, and said she "had no idea how competitive it was." After graduating, she applied to 15 osteopathic medical schools, and was accepted by three. She chose the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, and now is a member of the Class of 2013.

Her experience is not unique. Program graduates have been accepted into every Texas medical school and many others across the country.

She gives the Masters of Medical Sciences program an enthusiastic thumbs-up, even though she said she "hated every minute of it."

"I expected it to be like undergraduate school," she said. "But it wasn't – it was like medical school. I had no idea what I was getting myself into. It was like a hoop of fire, and we were being asked to jump through it just to see if we could."

She hadn't been in school for 18 months, and suddenly was faced with "absorbing four hours of lecture every day for four days a week."

Taylor honed her study and time management skills scalpel sharp, and, as a result, made a reasonably easy transition to medical school.

Carla Lee, director of the Office of Graduate

Admissions and Services, says the program gives students "the opportunity to demonstrate they are capable of succeeding" in courses taught at the medical school level.

"One of the biggest advantages is that it helps transition students from the life of an undergraduate filled with extracurricular activities such as football games and parties, to a life completely focused on their studies," she said. "They learn to study massive amounts of material. Extracurricular activities here tend to support the curriculum and are directly related to the student's career."

Now as a TCOM student, Taylor tutors participants in the medical sciences program. She said the program is constantly evolving – each year, graduates provide input on how to improve it. Her class recommended adding more microbiology and immunology content. As a result, the curriculum now includes two semester hours on those sciences.

The challenging program is well worth the effort, Taylor said.

"If you get into the program and end up graduating, you'll be ecstatic," she said. "You'll be able to endure medical school and end up reaching your dream."

She highly recommends it.

"The program is constantly evolving and constantly getting better and constantly making students more prepared to be medical students."

***"The program is constantly evolving and constantly getting better and constantly making students more prepared to be medical students."***  
– Kristen Taylor

## Meet some of UNTHSC's top researchers+

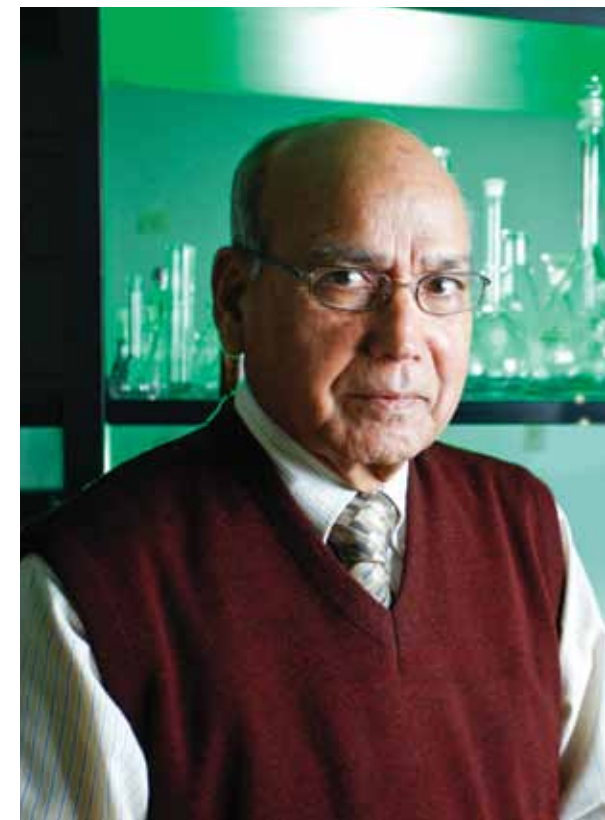
**Hassan Alizadeh, PhD,**  
associate professor, Cell Biology  
and Anatomy

**Research focus:** Biology, immunology and therapy of Acanthamoeba keratitis, which can cause eye infections, especially in contact lens wearers

**Potential impact:** The premise is that no single therapeutic procedure is likely to be effective in treating Acanthamoeba infection. However, a carefully selected and evaluated combination of procedures that collectively or synergistically interfere with each step of the disease progression can significantly reduce the severity of the disease. Thus, disrupting the signaling pathways that are involved in inflammation and inducing cell death in Acanthamoeba infection might have a major impact on preventing inflammatory responses in Acanthamoeba keratitis, and will likely apply to other corneal infections as well.

**Status:** Ongoing

**Funding source:** National Eye Institute



**Yogesh Awasthi, PhD**  
Professor, Molecular Biology  
and Immunology

**Research focus:** Mechanisms of defense against oxidative stress and pathologies of diseases including cataractogenesis, retinopathy and cancer; cancer chemotherapy mechanisms of drug resistance and oxidative stress induced retinopathy

**Potential impact:** Studies show that inhibition of the protein RLIP76 led to complete remission of tumors in mice – and is likely to have a major impact in cancer therapy. Our studies should also help to develop approaches to prevent radiation toxicity.

**Status:** Completed studies show the antibodies against RLIP76 or RLIP76 siRNA proteins regress human tumors. Our studies have also shown that the compound 4-hydroxynonenal plays a major role in eye diseases.

**Funding sources:** National Eye Institute and the National Institute of Environment and Health Sciences



## Abe Clark, PhD

Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy,  
director of the North Texas Eye Research  
Institute and the Visual Sciences  
Graduate Program

**Research focus:** Better understanding of the mechanisms responsible for eye diseases such as glaucoma, as well as traumatic damage to the eye

**Potential impact:** This research will identify new and better ways for treating blinding eye diseases using mechanisms that will directly impact the disease and/or injury processes.

**Status:** We have discovered a number of new disease pathways for glaucoma, a leading cause of irreversible blindness. Our lab and the institute are growing so we can make additional discoveries to improve the visual outcome for millions of patients.

**Funding source:** National Eye Institute, U.S. Department of Defense and Alcon Laboratories



## Eric B. Gonzales, PhD

Assistant professor, Pharmacology  
and Neuroscience

**Research focus:** To understand the workings of the membrane proteins involved in signaling pain, neuropsychiatric disorders and those thought to be important in preventing the long-term consequences of stroke – at atomic resolution using protein crystallography

**Potential impact:** Membrane proteins represent up to 30 percent of an organism's genome, and are the targets of up to 60 percent of all drugs. Knowing and understanding a protein's structure enables the design of better drugs and novel therapies.

**Status:** Laboratory is currently being established.

**Funding source:** As a postdoctoral fellow at the Vollum Institute in Portland, Ore., funded by the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association; funded here by an intramural seed grant



## Tom Cunningham, PhD

Professor of Integrative Physiology  
and director of the Cardiovascular  
Research Institute

**Research focus:** Studying the role of the central nervous system in chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, sleep apnea and water retention related to heart or liver failure

**Potential impact:** We hope to gain a better understanding of how adaptations in the brain contribute to and sometimes cause cardiovascular disease; this will lead to new treatment strategies.

**Status:** Recent findings have allowed us to identify a protein that causes changes in gene expression in the brain, contributing to high blood pressure related to sleep apnea and fluid retention associated with liver failure.

**Funding source:** National Institutes of Health



## Andras G. Lacko, PhD

Professor, Molecular Biology  
and Immunology

**Research focus:** Novel targeted delivery system for cancer therapy

**Potential impact:** If successful at the clinical stage, this strategy could revolutionize cancer chemotherapy because of its precise delivery of the anti-cancer agents to tumors, thus reducing or eliminating side effects.

**Status:** We have concluded a number of translational studies. Some of these experiments were carried out by our collaborators at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. We are now seeking expanded private and public funding to elevate our studies to the clinical stage.

**Funding sources:** U.S. Department of Defense, James A. Winterringer Cancer Research Fund/Cowtown Cruisers, UNTHSC FOR HER program and the Cancer Research Foundation of North Texas



**Robert T. Mallet, PhD**  
**Professor of Integrative Physiology**

**Research Focus:** Improving fluids used to resuscitate those suffering shock from significant blood loss

**Potential Impact:** We are developing and testing fluids enriched with pyruvate, a natural metabolic fuel and antioxidant, to help stabilize blood pressure and prevent harmful inflammation after severe blood loss. The ultimate goal is to improve resuscitation of wounded soldiers in the battlefield and civilian trauma victims, in order to prevent loss of wounded limbs and save lives.

**Status:** The research project is funded and progressing at a rapid pace. Compared to conventional resuscitation fluids, pyruvate-enhanced fluids have been found to better stabilize blood pressure and prevent inflammation in heart and muscle tissue after blood loss.

**Funding Source:** U.S. Department of Defense



**Mark Mummert, PhD**  
**Associate professor, Mental Sciences Institute**

**Research focus:** Investigating the impact of chronic mental and environmental stress on the skin's immune response and studying the biology of skin cancer spread, including malignant melanoma

**Potential impact:** Because many dermatological disorders (e.g., psoriasis) have an immune component, a detailed understanding of how external stressors impact skin immunology may lead to improved treatments. Similarly, a better understanding of the biological underpinnings of skin cancers could potentially enhance patient treatment and care.

**Status:** Ongoing

**Funding source:** National Institutes of Health



**Steve Mifflin, PhD**  
**Professor and chair, Department of Integrative Physiology**

**Research focus:** Neuro-humoral regulation of cardiovascular function in disease states such as sleep apnea, heart failure, hypertension, obesity and diabetes

**Potential impact:** Better insight into the factors that govern cardiovascular function in disease could lead to the identification of novel treatments

**Status:** Initial stages. Our work in rodents has led to several new findings that will be pursued in studies of human sleep apnea patients.

**Funding source:** National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association



**Rhonda K. Roby, PhD, MPH**  
**Associate professor, Forensic and Investigative Genetics**

**Research focus:** Development of bioinformatic tools for genetic data analysis; optimization of sequencing technology; robotics

**Potential impact:** To develop and integrate a workflow for DNA sequencing using robotics and to generate automated DNA sequence data by incorporating this technology into the casework performed at the UNT Center for Human Identification for the Missing Persons Program. It will potentially assist in uploading data faster to support identification efforts. The technology also could be expanded to other areas, including cancer research.

**Status:** Ongoing

**Funding sources:** U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice and other contracts







Jill Kurschner, Mary Wilson, Heather Cline, Itzel Pena and Brian Gladue ensure research involving human subjects follows all safety standards and is scientifically sound. Not pictured: Deb Ceron.

## First, do no harm – Office protects human subjects of medical research

Advances in medical care, particularly during the last 100 years, have exploded, leading to increasingly longer and healthier lives. Most of this progress would not be possible, however, without carefully considered and monitored research studies involving human subjects.

Ensuring that all the Health Science Center's research involving human beings follows ethical and legal standards and is scientifically sound are the Office for Protection of Human Subjects and the Institutional Review Board, both led by Brian Gladue, PhD.

We may think of clinical research with humans as a fairly recent practice. Many recall the well-known clinical trials by Edward Jenner during the 1700s, in which he tested the first smallpox vaccines on his son and neighborhood children.

However, the first book dealing with experimental medicine, evidence-based medicine, randomized controlled trials and efficacy tests was written circa 1025, when Persian prodigy Avicenna penned The Canon of Medicine.

Avicenna was a student of Greek medicine,

and when you combine the Canon of Medicine with Hippocrates' commandment to "do no harm," you have the genesis of a medical research code of ethics.

And research ethics are what Gladue's team is all about. His office's existence may be federally required, but Gladue and the Health Science Center believe they should do more than required. In fact, the organization is launching the nation's first master's level Clinical Research Management degree program with a track in Human Research Protection.

"Most institutions have an Institutional Review Board (IRB) that evaluates whether a proposed research project meets federal requirements, then makes a decision on whether or not to approve it and sends it back, often unapproved, with no feedback," Gladue said. This leaves the researchers without guidance on how to improve their proposal.

"Our office is more than just a regulatory body," he said. "We do a lot of interacting with students, faculty and staff to help them design their research so it is more ethical and, ultimately, approvable.

"We are proactive. We do pre-reviews that help both faculty researchers and their students navigate the Byzantine shoals of regulations. Our office helps to make sure the subject is protected, the research is lawful and that it may lead to useful information."

Gladue noted that most clinical research has no benefit to the particular research subject.

"The true benefit often comes from the advancement of knowledge or to other patients or subjects down the road," he said.

Working with the investigator, he and his team discuss the research's key benefits and whether the benefits outweigh the risks. They also make sure the consent form is clear and written in common language.

Research involving human beings may involve a survey, a clinical trial for a new drug or monitoring body systems while an individual walks on a treadmill. They make sure information collected is kept confidential, maintaining the person's privacy.

"We hope to enhance the research enterprise at this university by bringing a value-added service to our clients and colleagues," Gladue said.

These are just some of the skills students in the new IRB Track master's level program will learn.

"There is no formal training for work in a human research protection office – most people learn on the job," Gladue said. "Our goal is to have our graduates be the best formally-trained institutional review board staff personnel in the world."

There are two things Gladue wants them all to remember:

"Safety first, and a good research design is an ethical research design." 📌

## One-of-a-kind program prepares graduates for protecting human research participants

For the first time in the nation, there is a program that prepares students specifically for making sure research involving humans is ethical and scientifically sound – and it's at the UNT Health Science Center.

It is a special track in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science's already successful Clinical Research Management program, and it's called the IRB (Institutional Review Board) Track. The program focuses on the regulatory aspects of human research protection.

"We are not aware of any other formal graduate-level training programs that offer a degree for human research protection anywhere in the country, and probably not in the world," said Brian Gladue, PhD, director of the Office for Protection of Human Subjects and chairman of the Health Science Center's Institutional Review Board. "Despite the importance and need for this, most individuals who work in human research protection programs or IRB offices are basically trained 'on the job' or through informal training sessions – often with variable results."

In addition to specialized coursework, the track requires students to complete a 32-week internship with an IRB office in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Graduates will be among the best trained in this field, Gladue said, making them strong candidates for jobs in the profession.

For information, contact Gladue, who is directing the IRB Track, at (817) 735-0409.



## Save the Date 3rd Annual North Texas Health Forum

# Infant Mortality

April 8–9th, 2010  
During National Public Health Week

Make plans now to attend  
To join the mailing list for this event, e-mail: [scrocker@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:scrocker@hsc.unt.edu)

Sponsored by the School of Public Health  
University of North Texas Health Science Center Fort Worth



## Introducing Don Peska, DO: *Building on TCOM's strengths*

Don Peska, DO, is now dean of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the nation's arguably most successful osteopathic medical school. He inherits a 40-year legacy as dean of the Health Science Center's founding school.

He comes to the position with a clear vision for where he thinks the school should go. In fact, Peska applied for the position initially so he could convey those views.

"As a candidate, I knew I would be able to express ideas that whomever became dean would become aware of," Peska said. "In some ways I applied to have a forum to share ideas."

As the national search continued, Peska said colleagues encouraged him to continue seeking the position, and to continue expressing his ideas. He was named dean on Sept. 9.

As a finalist for the position, Peska presented some of those ideas when he described his view of the school's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. However, even more important than his personal vision, Peska said, is the vision of those "carrying out the work."

He likes to quote U.S. Navy Adm. William Halsey Jr., a commander of the Third Fleet during World War II, as depicted in the 1960 movie, *The Gallant Hours*. When an officer disagreed with a commander's strategy on how best to take a Pacific island, Halsey tells the officer, "You may be right; but you've got to let the guy doing the job have a say."

"My job is to create consensus among those

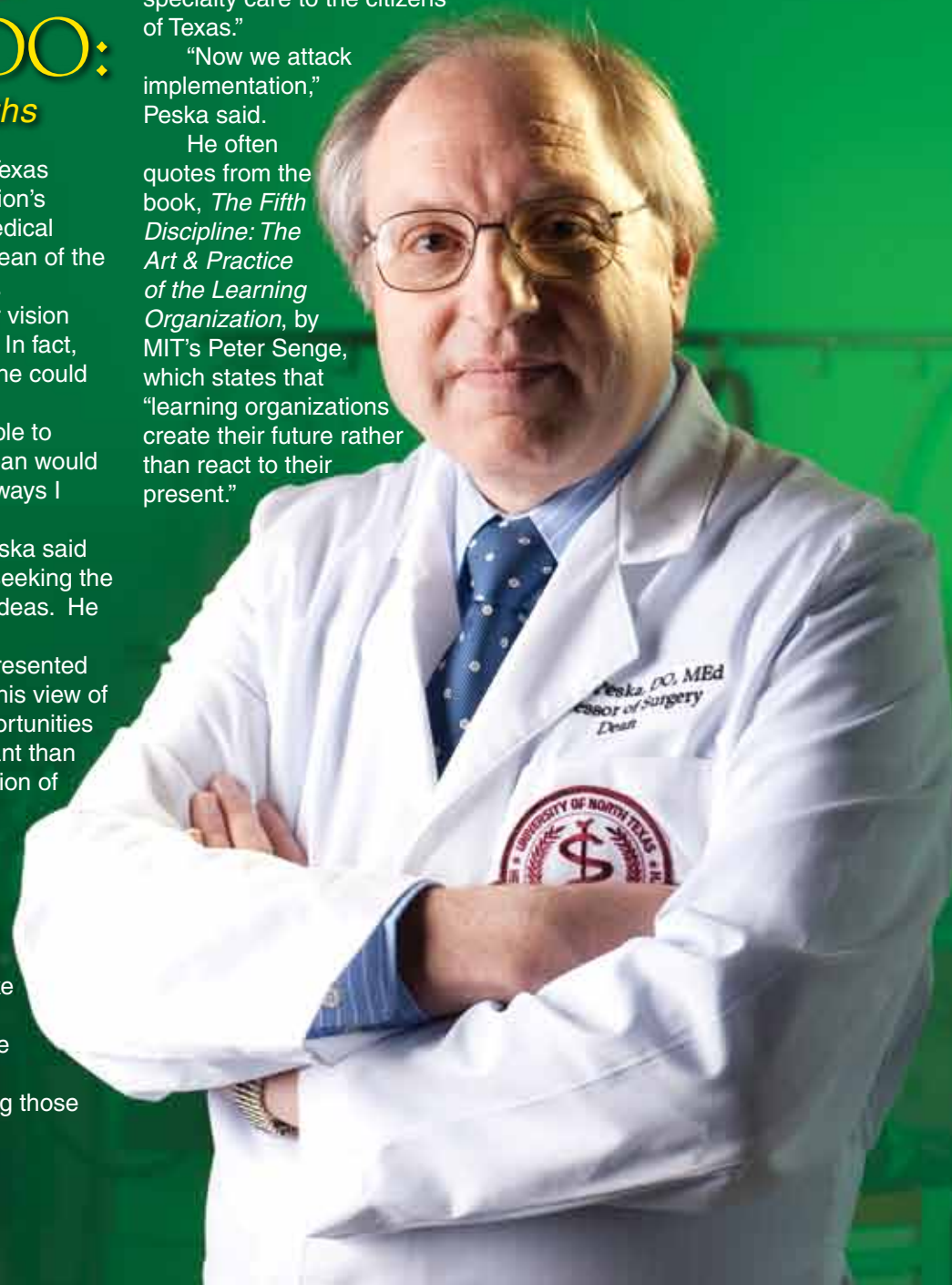
charged with getting the work done," Peska said. "I like to collaborate – give others the opportunity to express a point of view. When people are working together, my job is a lot easier. If you form a consensus and move forward – you have a greater chance of success."

That's why he conducted a two-day, off-campus retreat of TCOM's leaders shortly after he became dean – so leaders could express their points of view and create a mission, vision, values and strategic plan. As a result, the team agreed to 35 tactical initiatives distributed over seven mission-centric areas and this mission:

"The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine educates tomorrow's patient-centered physicians and scientists by advancing medical knowledge and providing the highest quality primary and specialty care to the citizens of Texas."

"Now we attack implementation," Peska said.

He often quotes from the book, *The Fifth Discipline: The Art & Practice of the Learning Organization*, by MIT's Peter Senge, which states that "learning organizations create their future rather than react to their present."



In order to be a learning organization, Peska said, the organization creates a culture so that successive leaders also succeed, avoiding the pitfalls of companies that perform well with a single charismatic leader, only to languish when he or she leaves the company.

Here's how Peska responded to a few more questions posed to him:

**What do you most enjoy about practicing medicine?** "I've never done it for the bank account. When you take away the business aspects, there are few opportunities that give a person the reward that medicine does."

**"My job is to create consensus among those charged with getting the work done. I like to collaborate - give others the opportunity to express a point of view .... If you form a consensus and move forward - you have a greater chance of success."**  
– Don Peska, DO

**Do you plan to maintain your clinical practice?** "Yes, that is something I have to make time to do. I am leading a medical school. If a faculty member is having a problem with electronic health records or scheduling patients for surgery, I know the issues because I have a practice. It's important for faculty to see me doing this. When students see me doing surgery, it changes their view of me. I have clinic on Thursday mornings and will be in the operating room half a day per week. I have partners I work with, so this works very well."

**What's your pet peeve?** "I'm a highly tolerant individual; my pet peeve is intolerance. It's important to find out about an issue before expressing an opinion."

**What would people be surprised to know about you?** "I'm highly rule-oriented. I don't break the rules. Sometimes it may be important to change the rules if you have to, but I don't break the rules. Also, I maintain my privacy, although I never shy away from answering questions. I don't have secrets, and I don't want to know others' secrets."

**What do you like to do when you're not working?** "I enjoy working around the house and doing yard work. I do a lot of traveling on business,

and I enjoy traveling with my wife."

**You have a master's degree in education. How do you apply that expertise to this position?** "I do online teaching evenings and weekends for our students serving in clerkships and conducting development programs for our faculty members around the state. Education then becomes a hobby – and its own science."

**What advice do you give student doctors?** "Don't corner yourself with one small perspective of what you think your future will be – be open. Run through first base, not just to first base. Aim high and don't be satisfied with mediocrity. Good citizenship and professionalism will get you further than grades. Prepare to be flexible."

**What would you like to tell the community?** "We're the only medical school in this area, and we have several roles. We should be seen as a center of excellence in health care. We provide educational opportunities and community health services. The community can look to TCOM and see how we deal with issues. We are well positioned for that role with our School of Public Health, something the community may not realize is there for them. We will continue to identify opportunities to promote health care in the community through our graduates and through our hospital partnerships."

**What would you like to tell faculty, alumni and staff?** "We will build on TCOM's current strengths so we can continue to be a leader on campus, irrespective of any other challenges we may face. This medical school is in good hands." 📌



# PRIMARY CARE Research Institute

## Helping physicians diagnose little-known dementia

It's an affliction that's as puzzling and frustrating as it is tragic and difficult to diagnose.

Imagine one day a loved one's behavior starts to change, exhibiting lack of judgment and inhibition, speaking sentences unrelated to the conversation at hand, and perhaps demonstrating apathy or muscle weakness and trembling.

Sounds like Alzheimer's, a brain disorder or perhaps Parkinson's disease – except it isn't. It's frontotemporal dementia (FTD), the leading cause of dementia in people younger than 65 years old.

Frontotemporal dementia is unfamiliar to most, and because of its many symptoms, physicians find it difficult to diagnose. Like Alzheimer's, it results in brain atrophy – but in the frontal lobe and temporal lobe (located behind and to the side of the frontal area). Alzheimer's primarily affects specifically the hippocampus, a structure within the temporal lobe.



Roberto Cardarelli, DO

It generally strikes individuals in their 50s or 60s, during their prime earning years when they still have teenagers at home – which can be devastating.

Roberto Cardarelli, DO, MPH, chair of Family Medicine and director of the Primary Care Research Institute, has plans to increase awareness of the disease among primary care physicians.

"Frontotemporal dementia has a severe impact on the family, and it usually strikes at a much younger age than most dementias," Cardarelli said. "Primary care physicians play a significant role in diagnosing and preparing families. The disease is usually well advanced before it is diagnosed."

Depending on which area of the brain is affected, symptoms may include behavioral changes including inappropriate behavior, euphoria, repetitive compulsive behavior or a decline in personal hygiene. Speech may be impaired or lost. And the patient may display a tremor, rigidity, muscle spasms, poor coordination or difficulty swallowing.

There is no treatment, although some symptoms may be managed with antidepressant, antipsychotic or anti-anxiety drugs. There is no clear role for Alzheimer's medication in treating patients with FTD. Some evidence shows these drugs have negative effects while others indicate they may have symptomatic benefits.

"That's why it's important to correctly diagnose this disease," Cardarelli said. "We want to make sure we use effective treatments that won't cause the patient's condition to deteriorate."

And early diagnosis allows the patient to participate in planning his or her future while still able to make decisions.

Once the disease reaches a certain point, brain atrophy may be detected through MRI or PET scans. However, the primary diagnostic tools are the patient's symptoms and history.

Cardarelli is doing qualitative research, talking to caretakers, patients and primary care physicians to learn more about the knowledge, attitudes and beliefs they have about FTD. He is also writing a paper that will be submitted to key medical journals for publication with Janice Knebl, DO, MBA, Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Distinguished Chair of Clinical Geriatrics, and Andrew Kertesz, professor of neurology at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

And he's working with the Health Science Center's office of Professional and Continuing Education to develop a class on this subject that will offer health care professionals Certified Medication Education credits.

"This is a perfect fit for the Primary Care Research Institute," Cardarelli said. "Although our primary focus is on research, we also focus on spreading the word to primary care physicians about information that can enhance patient care."

# UNT Health

The Physician Group of the UNT Health Science Center

## Travel Medicine becomes its own medical specialty

The globalization of travel and ease of people moving between countries has helped spawn the need for a new medical specialty: international travel medicine.

International travelers may not be aware of threats posed by the local insect population, drinking water or even societal influences that may dramatically impact one's health.

To help combat preventable diseases and the health of travelers, UNT Health has formed the Travel Medicine Clinic, under the auspices of the Advanced Medical Clinic on the UNT Health Science Center campus.

**"Much of the patient counseling involves preparing a traveler for what to expect on an international journey."**

**– Tasleyma Sattar, DO**

Medical Director Tasleyma Sattar, DO, sees both business and leisure travelers, as well as a growing number of international students.

"Many need boosters for polio," Sattar said, as travelers may be exposed to diseases not seen in the U.S. "There is a recurrence of polio in Kenya, for example."

In an initial visit with Sattar in the Travel Medicine Clinic, she reviews information such as the traveler's destination and prior immunization records. Many vaccines can have reactions in combination with over-the-counter medications, so she gleans as much health and medical history as possible.

"Much of the patient counseling," said Sattar, "involves preparing a traveler for what to expect on an international journey, especially for those who smoke or have conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bronchitis or diabetes."

"They need to know what to do and what resources are available to them," Sattar said,

"including knowing how to reach a U.S. Consulate, local hospitals or police." Other preparations include learning the local food preferences and preparation, water safety and other societal customs which could impact one's health status while visiting.

"It's a mix of medicine and sociology," Sattar said of travel medicine.



Tasleyma Sattar, DO, medical director for the Travel Medicine Clinic of UNT Health, works closely with Fort Worth-area international travelers.

Yellow fever is also a major concern, she said, and most countries will not allow admittance unless the traveler presents an international immunization card.

Clinics must be certified to give yellow fever vaccines – it contains a live virus and might have side effects. UNT Health's Advanced Medical Clinic is state-certified to administer the vaccine.

But not all of Sattar's work is done before the trip.

"A lot of what I see is post-travel," Sattar said, "when the traveler comes in complaining of not feeling well after returning home."



# CAMPUS FACILITY UPDATE

Computer generated 3D rendering



## UNTHSC's Medical Education and Training building will feature state-of-the-art auditorium

The UNT Health Science Center's new Medical Education and Training building is scheduled to be substantially complete by April. Along with classrooms and clinical training space, the new building will include an 11,500-square-foot, 500-seat teaching auditorium to accommodate the growing classes of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. The auditorium, which can be divided into two 250-seat rooms, will include

four projection screens and four flat panel monitors that will make presentations easily visible from all parts of the room. Professors will be able to control presentations, audio, video and lighting. Long-term plans include adding video teleconferencing capabilities and a microphone system that will allow students to be heard in the large space. The space will also be available for high-profile lectures and community events.

## Lewis Library expands facilities and services



To meet the needs of its expanding student body and growing campus, the Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library at the Health Science Center has made some big improvements. Now students have access to computers, copiers and workspace – including private study rooms and a lounge – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Along with expanded hours, the library increased security with additional security cameras, more police patrols and new lighting around the building's exterior. In addition, the fourth floor of the library has been converted to study space with new carpeting, furniture and a “super quiet” area enclosed within glass walls.



View of the south side of the new Medical Education and Training Building, where stone and glass are being installed.



# In the COMMUNITY

Photos: Courtesy Fort Worth Museum of Science and History



Displays from *CSI: The Experience*, which the Health Science Center's Art Eisenberg, PhD, helped create. The interactive forensic science exhibit, related to the hit television series, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, runs through May 2 in the Special Exhibitions Gallery of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.



## Eisenberg helps create CSI exhibit for children's museums

Art Eisenberg, PhD, helped create the popular "CSI: The Experience" exhibit at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, which runs until May 2. Eisenberg is chairman of the Department of Forensic and Investigative Genetics and co-director of the UNT Center for Human Identification. Among other features, the interactive exhibit takes visitors inside "laboratories" for scientific testing, welcomed by cast members on video monitors from the *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* television show. The exhibit's future stops include the MGM Grand in Las Vegas and the Ambassador Theatre

in Dublin, Ireland. More information is available at [www.CSItheexperience.org](http://www.CSItheexperience.org), where you can also download a family guide that explains how to extract DNA from a strawberry, just the thing to help keep little ones busy during spring break.

## Dean's Advisory Council explores local health issues

The School of Public Health launched the Dean's Advisory Council, chaired by community volunteer Libby Watson, to help advance public health research, education and community programs. Key leaders from state and local government and health care, as well as the Tarrant County Public Health Department, Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, United Way and

other community organizations, are addressing health issues of concern to Fort Worth. These issues include mental health, infant mortality, air quality, obesity, diabetes and other diseases. Infant mortality, in fact, will be the topic of the upcoming annual North Texas Health Forum, scheduled for April 8 and 9.



The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine's (TCOM) Class of 2012 hosted the DO Dash 5k this fall at the Health Science Center. The event attracted 200 runners and raised more than \$12,000 for our Cardiovascular Research Institute.



Ruth Washington (center), senior administrative assistant in Human Resource Services, presented a donation from the Health Science Center's Campus Pride fund to the SafeHaven domestic violence program in honor of the late Makasha Colonvega, a TCOM student who died last year. Also pictured are Danna Wall, managing supervisor for the Berry Good Buys store, which benefits SafeHaven, and Susan Smith, assistant director of annual giving for the Health Science Center.



Gerald Friedman, DO, (second from left) allows undergraduate students from the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) to "resuscitate" Stan, a robotic "patient." More than 70 SACNAS members toured the university last fall as part of their annual meeting in Dallas.



# NEWS

UNT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



## Board of Regents approves next step in conferring MD degree

The University of North Texas System Board of Regents voted in November to move forward in its intent to offer an MD degree at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. This second medical degree would be separate from, and in addition to, the DO degree which currently is conferred through the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) at the Health Science Center.

The decision follows a year of research into pursuing the option of conferring a second degree. The next steps in the process include securing preliminary funding, establishing a business plan for the new school, ensuring commitments to TCOM and confirming relationships with area hospitals for student rotations and instruction.

## TCOM named a top medical school for Hispanic students

For the fourth time in five years, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) has been named a top medical school for Hispanic students by Hispanic Business magazine. TCOM ranked 11th out of the 156 MD- and DO-granting schools in the U.S. TCOM is the highest ranking osteopathic medical school on the list.

The magazine ranks medical schools annually based on the quality of its academic programs, its commitment to diversity and the success of its graduates. The list was published in the magazine's September 2009 issue.

## TCOM announces new leaders

**Robert Richard, DO** ('90), has been named chair of Community Medicine for TCOM. Richard had previously served as TCOM interim chair and chair of Community Medicine for the John Peter Smith Hospital District.

**Thomas Dayberry, DO** ('97), PhD, is now interim associate dean for TCOM Academic Affairs.

Dayberry has been chief of the Division of Family Medicine Education since 2007 and an assistant professor in the Family Medicine Department since 2000.

## New GSBS leadership named

**Meharvan "Sonny" Singh, PhD**, has been named assistant dean for Graduate Education and Research in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. As assistant dean, he will oversee admissions into the traditional PhD and MS programs, serve as advisor to Biomedical Science students, and provide oversight to the graduate curriculum. In addition to his new role, Singh will continue his duties as associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience.

**Harlan Jones, PhD** ('01), has been named director of recruitment and minority affairs. As director of recruitment, Jones will advocate the graduate programs, degrees and research to potential students at undergraduate institutions across the country.

As director of minority affairs, Jones will continue to increase diversity in the biomedical sciences through partnerships with the Health Science Center's Office of Outreach. Jones will also support the Health Science Center's minority outreach programs for graduate students, and the academic and research ambitions of the Health Science Center's diverse student body.

Jones will continue his teaching and research roles as assistant professor in the Department of Molecular Biology and Immunology.

## Gov. Perry appoints three new regents to UNT System board

Gov. Rick Perry appointed three new members to the UNT System Board of Regents who will serve until May 2015: G. Brint Ryan of Dallas, Steve Mitchell of Richardson and Michael R. Bradford of Midland.

The board elected C. Dan Smith to serve as

its new chairman; Jack A. Wall was named vice chairman. Jennifer Ozan, TCOM Class of 2010, is the UNT System's student regent.

More about the new regents:

**G. Brint Ryan** is founder, CEO and managing principal of Ryan Inc., a leading tax services firm in Dallas. He received his bachelors and masters of science degrees from UNT.

Ryan's long-time partnership with UNT includes gifts of \$1 million each to his alma mater and to UNT Dallas. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus, UNT's most prestigious alumni recognition, earlier this year. Ryan also received the Outstanding Alumnus Service Award in 2003, and he was named Alumnus of the Year by the Department of Accounting in 1997.

**Steve Mitchell** is a lead business systems analyst for Thomson Reuters, and he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in UNT's five-year accounting program. Mitchell served as Richardson mayor from 2007 to 2009, and he has served on the Richardson City Council since 2005.

He is a member of the Commission on State Emergency Communications, Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition and Richardson YMCA Board of Directors and is a past member of the Richardson City Plan Commission and Sign Control boards.

**Michael R. Bradford** is county judge of Midland County and an oil and gas producer. He is president of the Natural Resources Foundation of Texas, founder of the Natural Resources Institute and chairman of the Conference of Urban Counties.

Bradford has served on several commissions and boards, including the Finance Commission of Texas. He is a member of the Texas Supreme Court Advisory Board on Children's Issues and past director of the Texas Lyceum.

Bradford received his Bachelor's and Master's of Business Administration degrees from Texas Christian University.

The new members will replace former Chairman Gayle W. Strange, Robert A. Nickell and Rice M. Tilley Jr., whose terms expired May 22.

The Board of Regents is the governing body of the UNT System, which consists of the University of North Texas, the UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth and the UNT Dallas Campus.

## ELFaramawi explores link between infectious disease and chronic health conditions

The correlation between infectious diseases and chronic health conditions has been the focus of a recent two-year study in the Egyptian population by Mohammed ELFaramawi, MD, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health. In Egypt, where approximately 10 to 15 percent of the population is Hepatitis C positive, researchers have found a link to liver cancer. Because there is currently no vaccination for Hepatitis C, public health efforts in Egypt are focusing on education to prevent its spread.

ELFaramawi, who joined the UNTHSC faculty in October, combines his professional interests in infectious and chronic diseases to study the ways infectious diseases affect our lives and lead to conditions such as cancer and heart disease. In addition to his work at the Menoufiya University in Egypt, ELFaramawi's studies have taken him to the Tulane School of Public Health and the World Health Organization in Switzerland.



## *In Remembrance*

**Jeff Potts, PhD**, (GSBS '93), associate professor of Integrative Physiology

**Dec. 26, 1958 - Sept. 2, 2009**



# Applause!

**Porunelloor Mathew, PhD**, associate professor of Molecular Biology and Immunology, earned a U.S. patent for research that could lead to new cancer treatments. Mathew's lab has identified, cloned and characterized the LLT1 receptor that inhibits the body's immune system from fighting cancer cells. His lab then generated an antibody against that receptor, which allows the body's natural killer (NK) cells to battle cancer. These findings will help in developing NK cell-based immunotherapy against breast cancer, prostate cancer and brain cancer. Mathew's research is in collaboration with scientists at Cambridge University in Cambridge, England.

**Fred Downey, PhD**, and **Robert Mallet, PhD**, professors of Integrative Physiology, presented their research at the Ninth World Congress of the International Society for Adaptive Medicine in Taipei, Taiwan, in August. Their work focuses on hypoxia, or a lack of oxygen, and how it can strengthen and protect the heart.

Co-authors of their research include **Myoung-Gwi Ryou, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow of Pharmacology and Neuroscience; **Jie Sun**, research associate in Integrative Physiology; **Arthur Williams Jr.**, administrative director in Integrative Physiology; **Pankhil Shah, MPH** ('09); and researchers from the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences and the University of Chicago.

**Andras Lacko, PhD**, professor of Molecular Biology and Immunology, presented his research, "Targeted Delivery of RNAi via Biocompatible Nanoparticles," at the 2009 RNAi Europe Conference in Berlin. Lacko's research is focused on using nanoparticles to treat cancer by delivering drugs to specific sites in the body.

**Tabatha Powell**, School of Public Health (SPH) student, won second place at the American College of Epidemiology Conference for Best Student Poster. Her research, "Histologic subtype and pancreatic cancer survival: Addressing uncontrolled confounding," was co-authored by **Rita Ojha**, SPH student; **Karan Singh, PhD**, professor and chair of Biostatistics; and **Lori Fischbach, PhD**, assistant professor of Epidemiology. This is the third

consecutive year that a SPH student has placed in this national competition.

**Trisha Van Duser, EdD**, executive director for Student Services, was named president-elect of the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators (TACUSPA). She was elected to this volunteer position by the association's members. She will assume the position in October.

**Ray Morrison, DO** ('86), was elected vice speaker of the House of Delegates for the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). The House of Delegates is the AOA's policymaking body. Morrison is a surgeon in Crockett, Texas, and serves as assistant professor of surgery in TCOM's Division of Rural Medicine.

## ACOS honors UNTHSC faculty, students and alumni

The American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (ACOS) held its Annual Clinical Assembly recently in Chicago, and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine was well represented. Several faculty and students were honored, and an alum was named president.

**Michael Hughes, DO** ('84), was inducted as the 82nd ACOS president. Hughes is a trauma surgeon in York, Pa.

**Hunaid Gurji, MS, DO** and PhD student, won first place in the poster competition for his submission, "Mitigating Effects of Limb Ischemic Reperfusion and Hemorrhagic Shock with Pyruvate." Gurji works in the labs of Robert Mallet, PhD, professor of Integrative Physiology, and Albert Yurvati, DO ('86), professor and chair of Surgery.

**Albert Yurvati, DO** ('86), professor and chair of Surgery, received a citation for his service to the College and the ACOS past president, Larry Belkoff, DO. Yurvati also presented a program on trauma/limb reperfusion at the assembly.

**Keith Watson, DO** ('78), associate dean of the Ohio College of Osteopathic Medicine, received the Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award.

# Alumni update



Photo: Courtesy of Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

## TCOM alumna has delivered 4,000 bundles of joy ... and still counting

*Editor's Note: Jane Scott, DO ('81), was featured recently in the Lubbock (Texas) Avalanche-Journal. Here is a condensed version of the original article by Sarah Nightingale.*

They're all in her little black book.

That's how Dr. Jane Scott will know the name, weight and sex of the 4,000th baby she delivers. By Monday afternoon, the veteran doctor had delivered 3,996 babies. The milestone infant was expected to arrive in the next few days, said officials from Lubbock's University Medical Center.

The first entry in the book came September 1986 in Denver City, Texas.

It was a strange time for a New Year's baby, but the first delivered that year, nonetheless.

"No one had been delivering babies there for quite some time," said Scott, 53, of the small West Texas town.

At the time, Scott was a new graduate of the University of North Texas Health Science Center. She had been assigned to Denver City to repay a scholarship that helped cover her medical training

on the condition she practiced for four years in a medically underserved community.

"I stayed there for six years," said Scott, who practices family medicine and obstetrics. Her family practice allows her to care for her patients from birth through adulthood.

"I took a lot of people who were shoved away by other doctors ... unmarried women and people on Medicaid," Scott said. Word of her practice "got around."

"I have a lot of repeat customers," she said.

Angela Ramos is one of them. Scott delivered both of Ramos' two boys, as well as 11 of 12 of her sisters' children.

"I like Dr. Scott because I feel very comfortable talking to her about my problems," said the mother of two. "I feel like she listens and she always offers me lots of options."

Scott, who delivered baby number 2,000 on Jan. 16, 2000, said she still loves overseeing the birthing process.

"They are all still different, they are all still exciting and I still get nervous every time," she said.

It doesn't appear she will slow down anytime soon. The waiting room of her practice was bustling Thursday morning. Several of those patients were expectant moms carrying the next generation of Scott's patients.

For the Ramos family, there is no other family doctor.

"My mom referred my sister, and then my sister referred my other sister, and then she referred me," Ramos said. "It just keeps going down the line."

*North Texas Health & Science editor's note: Scott delivered her 4,000th baby at 2:09 p.m. on July 25, a healthy boy weighing 5 pounds, 10 ounces.*



## 7 TCOM classes celebrate at September reunion



From the class of 2004: *Top row*, Aurash Esmaili, Sudipta Chaudhuri, Jeff X. Zhao and Mahan Ostadian; *Bottom row*, Igor Rakovchik, Stephanie Bryan, Nara Pattranupravat and Boris Ioffe, all DOs



Don Peska, DO, [right] presented the Dean's Award for Distinguished Service to Shelley M. Howell, DO ('74), the Award for Philanthropy to Jeffrey Alpern, DO ('79) and the Gavel Award for Outstanding Leadership to David E. Garza, DO ('89).



From the class of 1974: John Williams, Nelda Cuniff, Gilbert Greene, David Wiman and Shelley M. Howell, all DOs



From the class of 1979: Paul Garmon, DO, Cindy Beaty and Barry Beaty, DO, share some good-natured fun



From the class of 1999: Angela Meyer, Melinda Velez and Margaret Turner, all DOs



Christina Sheely, DO ('99) and George Sheely, looking festive and feeling appreciative

## Alumni associations welcome new officers and members

Welcome to our new alumni board members, and congratulations to all officers!

### Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Officers

Stephen Laird, DO ('78), *President*  
John Wright, DO ('84), *President-Elect*  
Rodney Wiseman, DO ('78), *Vice-President*

### School of Public Health New Members

Allen Applegate, MPH ('06)  
Lynn Gray Breaux, RN, DrPH ('05)  
Rachael Jackson, MPH ('08)  
Samira Meymand-Fritchman, DDS, MPH ('01)  
Marcus Joseph Mitias, MBA, MPH ('07)  
Karen Bell Morgan, MPH ('04)  
Harrison Ndetan, MSc, MPH ('07)  
Melissa Oden, LMSW, MPH ('06)  
Thenisha Smith, MPH ('01)  
Elizabeth Trevino Dawson, DrPH ('05)

### Department of Physician Assistant Studies President and New Members

Karen Kindler, BSPA, PA-C ('99), *President*  
Jackie Beeler, MPAS, PA-C ('08)  
Sergio Haynes, MPAS, PA-C ('09)  
Lisa Hogan Moody, BSPA, PA-C ('99)  
Tonya Khan, MPAS, PA-C ('04)  
Jay Pribble, MPAS, PA-C ('09)

### Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Officers and New Members

Patricia Cappelletti, MS ('98), *President*  
Ginelle Gellert, PhD ('03), *President-Elect*  
Pamela Marshall, MS ('02), *Vice President*  
Maj. Robert Carter III, MPH ('03), PhD ('01)  
Eric Gonzales, PhD ('05)

## What's new with you?

**Keep in touch:** alumni@hsc.unt.edu • 817-735-2278 • www.hsc.unt.edu/alumni

Got a personal or professional achievement to brag about? Send them an e-mail. Want to help organize a class reunion? Call them. Want to get in touch with a classmate? Let them know. Have an idea for a new alumni activity? Well, you get the idea.

## A medical school started in Fort Worth 40 years ago now ranks among the best in the U.S.



From humble beginnings in a bowling alley, it has grown surrounded by a prominent health science center.

The story of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the UNT Health Science Center in words and pictures

The book arrives Fall 2010

**Watch for details**



# ADVANCEMENT *update*



**To Your Health: The Future is Now**  
Annual gala honors School of Public Health with futuristic theme



Scott Ransom, DO, presents the Vision Award to Val Wilkie Jr., executive vice president of the Sid W. Richardson Foundation.



The Worthington Hotel's ballroom took on a futuristic look for the celebration.



Sejong Bae, PhD, assistant professor, and Shrawan Kumar, PhD, DSC, professor, with guests.



Attendees danced to the tunes of Watchband ...



... and showcased their moves on the dance floor.



President Scott Ransom, DO, MBA, MPH, helps kick off the Campus Pride campaign, our internal giving program, at UNT Health's May Street office. Campus Pride this year raised more than \$217,000 dollars for programs and charity, topping last year's total by close to \$7,000.



UNTHSC's Advancement Team and President Ransom prove they can keep the giving spirit alive.



Krista Gordon and Tommy Hawkes



Minnie Zavala and Lydia Zarate



# 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  
 Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc.  
 Carl E. Everett  
 Clay W. Gilbert  
 Frederick & Cindy Hill  
 Osteopathic Heritage Foundation  
 Donald W. Reynolds Foundation  
 Sid W. Richardson Foundation

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

Alcon  
 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
 American Osteopathic Foundation  
 Bass Foundation -- Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Bass  
 Susan G. Koman Foundation  
 Marianne & Alan Levine  
 Life Technologies Foundation  
 The Miles Foundation Inc.  
 North Texas Affiliated Medical Group  
 Texas Health Resources: Harris Methodist Fort Worth  
 Texas Health Resources: Harris Methodist Select  
 W. B. & Ellen Gordon Stuart Trust

## White Coat Society \$100,000+

Abbott Laboratories  
 American Diabetes Foundation  
 American Osteopathic Association  
 AT&T Foundation  
 Richard D. Bass Foundation  
 Baylor All Saints Medical Center  
 Ronald R. Blanck  
 The Burnett Foundation  
 Cancer Research Foundation of North Texas  
 Community Hospital Foundation  
 Joe & Jessie Crump Foundation  
 DH Foundation  
 Fairchild Family  
 Janice Knebl & Thomas Fairchild  
 Fairchild Estate  
 Garvey Texas Foundation



Carl E. Everett, DO, co-founder of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM), and Clay W. Gilbert, DO, anesthesiologist and family practitioner, received the first Doctor of Philanthropy Awards in 2009.

Houston Endowment Inc.  
 Huguley Health System  
 Lowdon Family Foundation  
 Adeline & George McQueen Foundation  
 The Meadows Foundation  
 Newby Memorial Loan Fund  
 Robert Patton Jr.  
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 Leo Potishman Trust  
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 Syngenta & Novartis Crop Projection Inc.  
 David Tuttle Jr.  
 John Wilson Sr. \*  
 Thomas & Elena Yorio

\*deceased

## Discovery Council \$25,000+

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 des Anges Crusier & Alan Podawiltz  
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 University of Rochester  
 The University of Texas-Pan American  
 Greg and Cathey Upp  
 Crystelle Waggoner Charitable Trust

\*deceased

# Donor Honor Roll *Annual Giving*

Listed below are our wonderful Annual Donors for the past fiscal year (Sept. 1, 2008-Aug. 31, 2009). 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+

Alcon  
 Edward P. Bass  
 Bass Foundation  
 Jay Frederick Bonds  
 T.J. Brown and C.A. Lupton Foundation  
 Thos. S. Byrne LTD  
 The Cancer Research Foundation of North Texas  
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 Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc.  
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 W. B. & Ellen Gordon Stuart Trust  
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 Texas Health Harris Methodist Fort Worth

## President's Cabinet, Platinum \$5,000+

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 Robert E. Sweeney  
 Tarrant County Hospital District  
 J. Gregory Upp  
 Jamboor Vishwanatha  
 Elena I. Yorio

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## Dean's Society Gold \$2,500+

Abbott Laboratories  
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Amerigroup Corp.  
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Austin Commercial LP  
Stephen D. Barrett  
Michael V.W. Bergamini  
Pete Bonds  
Cantey & Hanger LLP  
Ashley Molesworth Classen  
Cook Children's Health Care System  
Danny L. Deen  
Michael Deese  
Robert Charles DeLuca  
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Margaret Feddersen  
Charitable Trust  
Galderma Laboratories Inc.  
The Human Source Foundation  
JPS – Partners Together for Health  
Kelly, Hart & Hallman PC  
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Matrix Holdings LP  
John G. Mills  
Christine Ann Moranetz  
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of Tarrant County  
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Travel Service Everywhere  
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UNTHSC Texas Public Health  
Training Center  
WellCare of Texas  
Robert Edward Winans  
Robert J. Wordinger  
Thomas Yorico

## Dean's Society Silver \$1,000+

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Austin Geriatric Specialists P.A.  
Sanjay Awasthi  
Steven G. Bander  
Bank of America  
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Karen Laitner Benz  
Boyken International  
Brandt  
Thomas Stephen Bunten  
Roberto Cardarelli  
Bobby R. Carter  
The Center for Cancer and  
Blood Disorders  
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Community Foundation  
of North Texas  
Comprehensive Health Management  
Cook Children's Medical Center/  
Health Plan  
Andrew Crim  
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Edward Elko  
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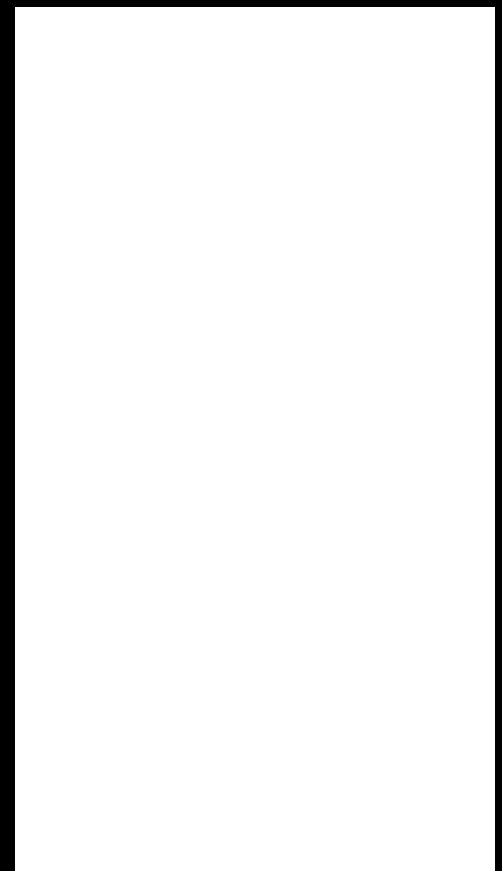
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### **March 18 - 19**

Spring Break Holiday  
UNTHSC offices will be closed

### **April 6**

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Ridglea Country Club, Fort Worth  
[www.hsc.unt.edu/invitational](http://www.hsc.unt.edu/invitational)

### **April 8 - 9**

North Texas Health Forum  
*Infant Mortality*  
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### **April 23**

Research Appreciation Day  
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### **May 15**

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### **May 27 - 28**

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on Health Disparities  
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