

Campus Connection Friday, July 17, 2009
People, plans and progress at Fort Worth's Medical School *and more*

TOP STORIES

TCOM students post top COMLEX scores for the fourth consecutive year

The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners announced last week that the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) Class of 2010 scored the best in the nation on the Level 1 [Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination \(COMLEX\)](#). This is the fourth consecutive year that TCOM has been the top performer in the nation on this exam. The class had a 99.3 percent pass rate and a mean score of 536 out of 540 points.

All states require medical students to pass a licensing exam before they receive licenses to practice medicine. The three-part COMLEX series examination, the licensing exam for the osteopathic profession, usually is taken at the end of the second year of medical school, the fourth year of medical school and during the internship (first residency year). The first of the three, Level 1, measures students' didactic level of medical knowledge, and the results are used by residency programs to select students for interviews and acceptance into post-graduate medical training programs. The MD equivalent is the United States Medical License Examination (USMLE).

Distinguished speaker to discuss optimal, equitable health outcomes

George Rust, MD, director of the [National Center for Primary Care](#) at [Morehouse School of Medicine](#) in Atlanta, will discuss "Real-World Research to Achieve Optimal and Equitable Health Outcomes" at the UNT Health Science Center's next Distinguished Speaker Series event. The presentation, which includes a panel discussion and reception, is July 23, from 5:30 – 7:45 pm in Luibel Hall and the Atrium. The events are open to the public. Visit the [PACE Web site](#) for more information and to register online.

Rust has spent the past 17 years teaching, researching and developing programs at Morehouse. He is board-certified in both family practice and preventive medicine, and is a professor of family medicine with a joint faculty appointment in the Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine. He graduated from [Loyola University School of Medicine](#), completed family medicine residency training at [Cook County Hospital](#) in Chicago, and holds a Master of Public Health degree from [University of Illinois-Chicago](#).

UNTHSC honored by FWISD

The UNT Health Science Center was awarded Fort Worth Independent School District's (FWISD) Golden Achievement Award for Partnership Excellence for the sixth consecutive year. The annual award honors FWISD's community partners who support activities and programs for the district's students and teachers. Annually, the Health Science Center hosts several programs that teach FWISD students about the sciences and scientific professions, including [Adopt-A-School](#), the [Go Center Project](#), [Project SCORE](#) and the recent Vitalink Internship program.

Outreach students to present research

On July 30, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) Office of Outreach will host a poster presentation session for students participating in summer outreach programs. The session will display research by 50 students from across the country who participated in the Health Science Center's [McNair Scholars](#), [Historically Black Colleges and Universities Collaborative Summer Training Program in Prostate Cancer](#), [SMART](#) (Summer Multicultural Advanced Research Training) and [SPHERE](#) (Summer Public Health Education and Research Experience) programs on campus this summer.

A panel of judges made up of GSBS and School of Public Health (SPH) students will select the top poster presentations in each program. Prizes will be awarded at a ceremony immediately following the poster presentation session. Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the events.

Poster session schedule:

Session 1 SMART/SPHERE

8 - 9:30 am

EAD Atrium

Session 2 McNair/HBCU

10:30 am - noon

EAD Atrium

The Health Science Center's summer outreach programs are made possible by these faculty members and their grants:

Robert Kaman, PhD, associate dean and director of Outreach

McNair TRIO Grant from the U.S. Department of Education

Thomas Yorio, PhD, provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs

SMART Grant from the Department of Health and Human Services

National Institute of Health; National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

HBCU-STP Grant from the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program

Claudia Coggin, PhD, assistant professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences

SPHERE grant from the Association of Schools of Public Health, the Association of Public Health Laboratories, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For more information about the Health Science Center's summer outreach programs, visit the [GSBS Office of Outreach](#) and the [SPH Center for Public Health Practice](#) online.

How should values guide UNTHSC?

Organizations constantly evolve, and navigating these changes is easier when the organization has a strong mission, vision and values. Surveys show that almost all of us know and understand the Health Science Center's mission (to improve the health and quality of life for the people of Texas and beyond through excellence in education, research, clinical care, community engagement and to provide national leadership in primary care) and vision (to become a top-10 health science center). Now we're turning the conversation toward our values.

What do the Health Science Center's values — compassion, excellence, innovation, integrity, pride and teamwork — mean to you? Help the [Communications Team's](#) Values Task Force develop common, institution-wide definitions of these. Take a survey, comment on the Values Blog, or talk to a Values Task Force member before Aug. 7 to share your thoughts on how we as individuals and the institution as a whole can display these values.

You are invited to join this conversation by:

- Clicking on the [Values Web site](#) and participating in an anonymous survey
- Sharing your views and inviting comments from others on the [Values Blog](#). We will add two values per week for discussion on the blog.
- Inviting a member of the [Values Task Force](#) to attend a regularly scheduled meeting in your department to obtain face-to-face feedback.

The Values Task Force members will summarize the responses and present their findings to the Communications Team for comment, then to the Administrative Thinking Council for consideration. Ultimately, the findings will go to the Executive Team – then be shared across the institution.

How we interpret these values will shape how we make decisions of all kinds – hiring and performance evaluations, priorities, resource allocation and future strategy. Help determine the right path by defining what our values mean and the actions they require of us.

Here are the Task Force members and the values feedback they will be summarizing in two-person teams:

Compassion

Diane Bradley, School of Public Health

Pat Baker, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Excellence

Craig Elam, Library

Carol Knisley, Osteopathic Research Center

Innovation

Cynthia Lee, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Terry Morgan, Facilities

Integrity

Susan Ross, Finance & Administration

Jim Sims, Safety Office

Pride

Trisha Van Duser, Student Affairs

Michelle West, Institutional Advancement

Teamwork

Jackie Williams, Health Institutes of Texas

Patrice Williams, Legal

NEWS BRIEFS

White Coat Ceremony is July 25

White Coat Ceremony is Saturday, July 25, from 2 to 4 pm at the Will Rogers Auditorium at 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. in Fort Worth.

At the ceremony, the UNT Health Science Center will welcome 185 incoming Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) students and 56 incoming Physician Assistant Studies students into the medical profession. Students will be “cloaked” in white coats symbolizing their careers in medicine. They will take an oath acknowledging their responsibilities and willingness to assume the obligations of their new professions.

Robert Early, president and CEO of JPS Health Network, will present the keynote address. At the event, Phillip Saperstein, DO, professor of Family Medicine, will receive the TCOM Founders’ Medal. Stanley Weiss, DO, UNT Health Science Center professor emeritus, will receive the Mary E. Luibel Distinguished Service Award.

For more information about the White Coat Ceremony, contact the [Registrar’s Office](#) at ext. 2201.

Mark your calendars: Employee Appreciation Day is August 26

The UNT Health Science Center will host its third annual Employee Appreciation Day on Aug. 26 to thank faculty and staff for their hard work throughout the year. Join your fellow employees at Alumni Plaza for hamburgers – with a vegetarian option — and snow cones provided by the Health Science Center. Look for more details and the day’s schedule in Daily News and Campus Connection.

Memories needed

Your help is needed for a new history book currently being prepared to celebrate next year's 40th anniversary of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Health Science Center. We are looking for the recollections of students, faculty, staff and alums for possible inclusion. Please write up and forward your memories of events and personalities from your time at UNTHSC, as well as photographs, to [Jean Tips](#) in Marketing and Communications.

New North Texas Health and Science magazine

The Summer 2009 issue of the *North Texas Health and Science* magazine profiles the School of Public Health and features the donors of the largest ever single gift to the Health Science Center. The quarterly magazine is available in magazine racks located around campus. You can also read it online [here](#) or request a copy at news@hsc.unt.edu.

Next Chalk and Talk on collaborative research efforts

The next Chalk and Talk Seminar is Aug. 4 from 5 to 6:30 pm at CBH 557. Thomas Yorio, PhD, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, and Glenn Dillon, PhD, vice president of Research, will discuss improving collaborative efforts among UNTHSC institutes and departments through shared F & A. Their presentation will be followed by a wine social. RSVP for Chalk and Talk to [Rhonda Dennis](#) in clinical trials.

HR UPDATE

Benefits changes for plan year 2010

As you plan your benefits summer enrollment, please be aware of several changes. Starting Sept. 1, the two state dental plans (DMO and Texas Dental Choice Plan) will be administered by HumanaDental. The Aetna DMO will become the Humana Dental DHMO, and the State of Texas Dental Choice Plan will keep its name, but will drop the three-year waiting period for maximum benefits. Participants will now receive maximum benefits beginning immediately. Also, the maximum annual benefit available in the State of Texas Dental Choice Plan will increase by 20 percent to \$1,500. The benefits under the HumanaDental DHMO (formerly Aetna DMO) will remain the same.

If you are currently enrolled in the Aetna DMO Plan, you will be required to register your primary care dentist as this information will not automatically rollover once the plan changes to the HumanaDental DHMO in September. You can register your primary care dentist (PCD) via ERS On-line, by phone or by completing the Humana DHMO form. You can phone in your PCD to HumanaDental at 877-377-0987 (toll-free).

Insurance rates for plan year 2010

These rates will become effective on Sept. 1, 2009:

Premium rates for Plan Year 2010 – Full-time employees

- **HealthSelect of Texas**

Coverage	Premium	State Pays	Member Pays
Member Only	\$385.38	\$385.38	\$0.00
Member & Spouse	\$826.02	\$605.70	\$220.32
Member & Children	\$680.42	\$532.90	\$147.52
Family	\$1,121.06	\$753.22	\$367.84

Premium rates for Plan Year 2010 – Part-time employees

- **HealthSelect of Texas**

Coverage	Premium	State Pays	Member Pays
Member Only	\$385.38	\$192.69	\$192.69
Member & Spouse	\$826.02	\$302.85	\$523.17
Member & Children	\$680.42	\$266.45	\$413.97
Family	\$1,121.06	\$376.61	\$744.45

Dental rates for Plan Year 2010

- **State of Texas Dental Choice PlanSM**

Coverage	Premium
Member Only	\$22.46
Member & Spouse	\$44.92
Member & Children	\$53.90
Family	\$76.36

- **HumanaDental DHMO**

Coverage	Premium
Member Only	\$8.52
Member & Spouse	\$17.05
Member & Children	\$20.45
Family	\$28.98

The monthly premium for the Short-Term Disability Plan will decrease from 32 cents per \$100 of salary to 29 cents per \$100 of salary effective Sept. 1, 2009. Long-Term Disability and life insurance rates will remain unchanged for Plan 2010.

ERS OnLine offers benefits help

The Employee Retirement System of Texas (ERS) offers several resources to answer your benefits questions during the summer enrollment period. The online tools include video tutorials that walk you

through process of making benefits changes online. You can view the videos and several other benefits resources on the [ERS Web site](#).

Please note that summer enrollment ends on July 31.

IN THE NEWS

Protecting the brain after trauma

Research by James Simpkins, PhD, chair of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, has moved into a clinical trial phase in Dallas through a partnership with Parkland Hospital. Simpkins learned low doses of estrogen can dramatically decrease damage to the brain following traumatic injury. A press release sent by the media relations division of the Marketing and Communications Department about his findings was published in 92 news outlets across the country, including [Reuters](#), [AOL News](#), [LATimes.com](#) and [CNBC](#). The [Star-Telegram](#) also ran a front-page version of the story about the trials.

Music & Medicine

The media relations division also sent "Music & Medicine," published in the [Spring 2009 North Texas Health & Science](#), as a press release, resulting in 201 news outlets using the story, including [Yahoo!](#), [Reuters](#), the [Entertainer's Resource Directory](#), along with several business publications and TV and radio stations.

A drug for stage fright?

Bernard Rubin, DO, division chair of Rheumatology, was quoted by the [Dallas Morning News](#) in an article about whether beta blockers are beneficial to performers suffering from stage fright. Rubin said a little time and forethought can help ease those performance-induced jitters.

The state of Texas women's health

[Star-Telegram](#) columnist Steve Jacob, (SPH '08), quoted Kathryn Cardarelli, PhD, MPH (SPH '99), director of the Center for Community Health, in his column about Texas women being charged as much as 50 percent more for health insurance than men, though they earn 64 cents to each dollar earned by white men in the state.

KUDOS

Christine Moranetz, PhD, was recently promoted to associate dean of Academic Affairs and chair of the new Department of Public Health Education. She also serves as associate professor in both the Department of Public Health Education and the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

In her new position, Moranetz will provide strategic vision, expertise and leadership in academic initiatives and curricular development strategies that enhance program and degree offerings in public health. She will direct the Doctor in Public Health Practice (DrPH) degree program with a new focus in leadership and management and coordinate the development of a new PhD program in Public Health Sciences.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Christine A. Moranetz, PhD - "Dr. Chris"
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
School of Public Health

How long have you worked here, and what did you do before joining the UNT Health Science Center?

I moved to Fort Worth and was hired by the Health Science Center in May 2008. It's hard to believe I've been here over a year ... time has certainly passed quickly.

Before coming here, I was at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan. Since 1991, I served many capacities in the School of Medicine — most of them in the Department of Preventive Medicine & Public Health. As director of special projects, I worked on the creation of the Institute of Community and Public Health — an entity that will develop into a School of Public Health. For several years, I served as the interim MPH director, and for 10 years, I was course director for the Introduction to Clinical Medicine for first-year medical students. Prior to KU Medical Center, I worked for many years at Saint Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., directing their Health Promotion Department. And, I have experience in graduate medical education, having served as a faculty member for a family medicine residency program, also in Kansas City, Mo.

What are your job duties at the Health Science Center?

My role is to provide strategic vision, expertise and leadership in academic initiatives and curricular development strategies that enhance program and degree offerings in public health. This means that I do a lot of program review, development and planning — for students and for faculty. I direct the Doctor in Public Health Practice (DrPH) degree program with its new focus in leadership and management, and coordinate the development of a new PhD program in Public Health Sciences.

As for a typical day — I don't know that there is one. There are always lots of meetings to attend, committees to chair, academic programs to develop, reports to be written — all of which impact our School of Public Health and our institution's accreditation. And, a day rarely goes by without some surprises!

The Health Science Center's values are compassion, integrity, excellence, pride, innovation and teamwork. Can you give an example of how your department or your coworkers demonstrate one of these values?

I appreciate the Health Science Center's values and hope that I share them well when I work with students and mentor faculty members. I'm passionate about my profession and want to share it with others. Wherever I've been, I've served as a "change agent" in some capacity. I think I bring innovation

to what we do, and through engaging others in the process, they take pride in developing improved programs and learn to work well with a team. I'm pretty blessed to be where I am — to be having fun while working hard and enjoying life!

What's the best part about working at the Health Science Center?

I recently received a promotion after just being here a year — that means a great deal to me. I appreciate the confidence that Dean Kurz has placed in my abilities, the support I get from peers across the Health Science Center and the collegiality that faculty within the school share with me.

What do you like to do when you aren't at the Health Science Center?

I enjoy swimming and walking, and for years I did competitive ballroom dancing. I also love to salsa and merengue. I recently got selected to the Class of 2010 for Leadership Fort Worth and am excited about getting more engaged within the community.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

The School of Public Health is in a great place right now. We're growing and making a difference in the Health Science Center and in the community. It's exciting that this year's Gala benefits our 10th anniversary, and we're hopeful that the Fort Worth community will learn more about the importance of public health and how they can help us make a difference for the citizens of Texas.

Read more about Moranetz's new role as dean of Academic Affairs in the Kudos section of this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE

July 23

Distinguished Speaker Series

"Real-World Research to Achieve Optimal and Equitable Health Outcomes"

5:30 pm

Luibel Hall and Atrium

July 25

White Coat Ceremony

2 pm

Will Rogers Auditorium

August 4

Chalk and Talk Seminar and Social

"UNTHSC Institutes and Departments: Improving Collaborative Efforts Through Shared F & A"

5 - 6 pm

CBH 557

RSVP to rhdenis@hsc.unt.edu

August 20 - 21

UNT System Board of Regents Meeting

UNT Health Science Center

August 26
Employee Appreciation Day

September 7
Labor Day Holiday
UNT Health Science Center closed

October 10
UNTHSC Gala
Celebrating the School of Public Health

October 15-18
SACNAS

November 26-27
Thanksgiving Holiday
UNT Health Science Center closed

December 9
Employee Holiday Lunch
Atrium

December 17
President's Open House
EAD 8th Floor

December 24- January 1, 2010
Christmas, Winter and New Year's Holidays
UNT Health Science Center closed

Watch the Daily News and Campus Connection for more information on these events and more.

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

Campus Connection is published the first and third Fridays of each month by the Marketing and Communications Department for UNT Health Science Center employees, students and friends. Please feel free to forward this e-newsletter to others and print it for those who don't have access to a computer.

Our goals are to:

- Keep you informed about the Health Science Center's strategic plan, priorities and goals.
- Promote the UNTHSC values of compassion, integrity, teamwork, innovation, pride and excellence.
- Demonstrate how the people and programs of the Health Science Center really do make a difference.

- Enable you to be a well-informed UNTHSC ambassador.

You're invited to contribute to the continuous improvement of this e-newsletter and other UNTHSC Family communications by sending story ideas, news, suggestions and questions to news@hsc.unt.edu.

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