

Campus Connection Friday, June 5, 2009

People, plans and progress at Fort Worth's Medical School *and more*

Going green and white: Next steps

The UNT System Board of Regents voted at their May meeting to change the Health Science Center's colors to green and white, and asked that we submit a cost-sensitive implementation plan at its August meeting. The vote, at the request of Chancellor Lee Jackson, was prompted in part by the State Legislature's approval of a UNT law school and the resulting need to better align the branding for the UNT System's two professional schools with the Denton and Dallas campuses.

Marketing and Communications is leading a strategic re-branding plan, including redesigning our word mark, developing a detailed transition plan for changing all items that carry our brand identity, and a budget of associated costs. Due to the anticipated cost of this effort, it will be phased out over time, starting in the new fiscal year.

For now, you are encouraged to use up existing supplies of printed and other branded items. More details and brand-usage guidelines will be communicated later. If you have any questions, please contact the Marketing Department at ext. 5190.

Lewis Library is staying up all night

As part of a continuing program to serve students better, Lewis Library will open its main floor 24 hours per day, seven days per week beginning July 6. In addition to the main floor's current study tables, comfortable furniture, computers and copier/printers, the 24/7 area will include 10 new study rooms and quiet lounge space. After-hours access to the vending machines on the building's lower level will be available.

The new library space is part of a coordinated campus-wide energy-saving and safety campaign. Starting at 10 pm each night, campus buildings will be locked. Individuals who wish to study should use the library's new 24/7 area. This will provide students a safe, climate-controlled environment and curb energy consumption in other buildings on campus. It should result in tremendous energy savings for the Health Science Center and a greener campus.

Focusing late night use on the main floor of the library also should improve safety. University police will target their foot patrols around the 24/7 area and will be able to view the area through eight new surveillance cameras. Emergency phones will be available. The library's outer doors will continue to be locked at 9 pm each night, and only people with valid UNTHSC ID badges will be able to enter after 9. The general public will be asked to leave the building at 10 pm and will not be able to return until the following morning.

Library staff will lock doors to the third and fourth floors each night at 10 pm. Students who wish to remain will move into the 24/7 area on the main floor. Staff will return and begin providing service at 7 am on weekdays and 10 am on weekends. Access to the library's top two floors will be available at that time.

The new plan does not affect student access to labs.

These changes are being implemented in response to student input from the annual Student Satisfaction Survey.

New software will cut PC energy consumption at UNTHSC

Did you know that cutting the energy consumption of personal computers (PC) on campus could save the Health Science Center more than \$40,000 a year? Over the next month, Information Resources and Technology (IRT) will team up with Facilities Management to roll out new energy management software that will drastically cut the Health Science Center's energy consumption by turning off PCs when they aren't being used.

The new software, called SURVEYOR by Verdiem, is one of the market's most comprehensive PC energy-management solutions. It will be "pushed" to your state-owned PC (IBM based). This will run in the background and will not interfere with your computer or your work. For the first several weeks, it will not do anything but gather information about energy consumption and use on your computer. This "baseline" period will be used to analyze your working trends. Information Resources and Verdiem then will work together to group computers according to their use, and assign applicable power-management policies to each work station. When appropriate, your machine and monitors will be powered off, or moved to a lower energy state, when not in use.

This software is highly sophisticated. It can tell when certain programs are running, and it won't shut down if they are. It can power off "gracefully," ensuring that your documents and other items are saved and protected. It will even pop up a window to ask if anyone is there before powering down.

Questions about SURVEYOR? Contact the Information Resource Helpdesk at helpdesk@hsc.unt.edu or 817.735.2192.

Lichtman receives bachelor's degree after 50 years

It took a 43-year career in medicine to get it, but David Lichtman, MD, chair of Orthopaedics, finally received his bachelor's degree last month. Dr. Lichtman can now add "Bachelor of Science from Tufts University" to his resume.

In 1959, Lichtman enrolled in a unique degree program at the university that allowed him to receive both his Bachelor of Science and Medical Doctor degrees after three years of undergraduate work and completion of medical school. However, he transferred to State University of New York, Brooklyn, before completing his degree. Although he went on to join the U.S. Navy, receive his MD, rise to the rank of Navy rear admiral, and was appointed director of surgical services at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Lichtman never completed his bachelor's degree.

After learning of the academic oddity, a friend of Lichtman's petitioned Tufts to grant the degree. His years of life, as well as professional experience and service, were taken into consideration. Tufts agreed to credit Dr. Lichtman with the 22 hours of coursework he lacked for the BS and granted him the degree.

Although he is now officially a member of Tufts University, Class of 2009, Dr. Lichtman opted to not attend the school's commencement ceremonies on May 16.

"Instead of getting my bachelor's, I helped confer medical degrees on my own students," he said.

Dr. Lichtman's unusual story is getting media attention around the country. Not only did his story appear on [our own Web site](#), it was also in the [Star-Telegram](#), on [dfwnbc.com](#), [MSNBC](#), and on the Associated Press wire.

Jenny Ozan named UNT System Student Regent

Gov. Rick Perry appointed Jennifer Ozan, TCOM Class of 2010, to serve as the student regent for the University of North Texas System. Ozan, of Fort Worth, is president of the TCOM Class of 2010 and a member of the American College of Family Physicians, Texas Osteopathic Medical Association and American Association of Osteopathic Women Physicians. She is also a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and [Bowl for Kids' Sake](#).

Ozan received a bachelor's degree from Skidmore College and is pursuing a doctorate of osteopathy from TCOM. Her term expires May 31, 2010. She replaces Meghan Vittrup of Lewisville, who is a student at UNT in Denton.

Student Survey results

In February, the UNT Health Science Center conducted the 2009 Student Satisfaction Survey to gather students' opinions of the Health Science Center's academics, services, facilities and more. This year, 722 students took the survey—98 percent more than last year. The results show that 78 percent are satisfied with the quality of education and teaching at the Health Science Center, just short of the goal of 80 percent satisfaction in both areas. The results have been presented to the Executive Team and each dean is analyzing the results and developing specific approaches to address concerns raised in the survey. This process will involve focus groups with students, faculty and staff to obtain a better understanding of student concerns.

As part of the [UNTHSC Strategic Plan](#), the Health Science Center emphasizes ongoing improvement in the quality of the educational experience of our students. Student satisfaction is one of our primary performance measures which are designed to help us understand the impact of our improvement efforts. Some of the survey questions are used by departments and schools as measurements for their [WEAVE strategic outcomes](#) to help meet the requirements for the upcoming Southern Association of Colleges and Schools re-accreditation. This is the third year that the Health Science Center has conducted the Student Satisfaction Survey.

You can view the full survey -- including an executive summary and students' comments—on the [Office of Strategy and Measurement Web page](#). For more information, contact [Marc Foster](#), research analyst, at ext. 0370.

Communications Team examines UNTHSC values

What values represent the Health Science Center – and how do those values translate to our day-to-day jobs? A Values Task Force composed of members from the [Communication Team](#) will explore that issue this summer. Values are the key principles that specify how we will accomplish our mission and vision. They drive how we will operate in every organization, in every classroom, with every patient and with the community.

A few years ago, Health Science Center leaders determined these as [organizational values](#):

- Compassion
- Excellence
- Innovation
- Integrity
- Pride
- Teamwork

However, these words may mean different things to different people. The Values Task Force will lead an institution-wide conversation on the meaning of these words to people throughout the campus and UNT Health and develop a common definition for each. They will do this by:

- Setting up a special Web site that anyone may use to submit input
- Visiting selected meetings to gain thoughts

The Task Force, along with the Communications Team, will summarize the results for the Administrative Thinking Council to consider this fall. Task Force members are:

- Diane Bradley, School of Public Health
- Liz Davis, MEd, Graduate School of Biomedical Science
- Craig Elam, MLS, Library
- Carol Knisley, Osteopathic Research Center
- Susan Ross, Finance & Administration
- Jim Sims, PhD, Safety Officer
- Trisha Van Duser, EdD, Student Affairs
- Michelle West, Development
- Jackie Williams, Health Institutes of Texas
- Patrice Williams, Legal
- Terry Morgan, Facilities Management

HIT Update: The Osteopathic Research Center

The Osteopathic Research Center (ORC) is the premier research center in the nation focused on Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment(OMT), and it's one of the newest additions to the Health Science Center's Health Institutes of Texas. This winter, the ORC's administrative offices moved into renovated

space in in the Center for BioHealth. The ORC continues its research in the largest clinical trial ever to evaluate osteopathic manipulation as a treatment for chronic low-back pain.

Current projects:

- John Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, executive director of the ORC and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair, is conducting the largest clinical trial to evaluate osteopathic manipulation as a treatment for non-specific chronic low back pain. The project is funded by the National Institutes of Health-National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NIH-NCCAM).

Another NIH-NCCAM-funded clinical trial focuses on the use of osteopathic manipulation to reduce back pain and improve delivery outcomes in the third trimester of pregnancy.

- Lisa Hodge, PhD, Osteopathic Heritage basic science research chair and assistant professor of Molecular Biology and Immunology (GSBS '01), is exploring ways in which osteopathic manipulative treatment affects the immune system, including beneficial effects on white blood cells and lymph flow through an RO1 grant awarded by NIH-NCCAM.
- ORC physicians and scientists also are working to determine changes in pro- and anti-inflammatory substances in the blood of patients after they receive osteopathic manipulation.
- Additional studies are looking at differences in the DNA of people who respond to osteopathic manipulation compared to those who do not.
- By systematically reviewing literature, fielding population-based surveys and analyzing national health care databases, the ORC aims to determine the unique practice characteristics of osteopathic physicians and to conduct scientific studies to evaluate osteopathic medicine. Health services and policy research at the ORC provide evidence to develop clinical practice guidelines for OMT in conditions such as low back pain. One study explores the clinical practice characteristics of physicians at academic health centers and appears in the June 2009 issue of [*Academic Medicine*](#).
- Through its research education initiative, the ORC created and implemented innovative approaches to teaching medical students how to better understand scientific literature, discern the quality of a research article or study, and integrate research findings into patient care.
- The ORC is developing and training a nationwide network of osteopathic physicians to conduct clinical research in their practices, which will broaden the evidence base for the use of OMT in managing specific conditions.

In November, the ORC will co-host the 2009 American Osteopathic Association Research Conference in New Orleans. The conference, focused on genomics in osteopathic research, will feature presenters from around the country. For more information, visit www.do-online.org.

For more on the ORC, contact [Cathleen Kearns](#), ORC administrative director, or visit the [ORC Web site](#).

The ORC is one of 12 [Health Institutes of Texas](#) (HIT) at the UNT Health Science Center. HIT is designed to speed research from the bench to the bedside to create a healthier and more productive Texas. Updates on each of the 12 HIT centers and institutes will be featured in future issues of Campus Connection.

NEWS BRIEFS

Health Disparities conference highlights prevention

About 350 health care providers and community health professionals joined UNT Health Science Center faculty and students at the fourth annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities May 28-29. The conference featured nationally recognized speakers and interactive debates highlighting the striking differences in health status among racial and ethnic minorities and the general U.S. population. Guest speakers and panelists highlighted ongoing research programs -- including community engagement programs -- that aim at understanding the causes of such disparities and devising innovative strategies to prevent and eliminate them.

Thursday's keynote speaker, Fernando Torres-Gil, PhD, from UCLA, presented the group with the issue of changing our health care system to one that doesn't leave anybody out. On Friday, Lovell A. Jones PhD, director of the Center for Research on Minority Health at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, challenged the audience to think differently about treating various ethnic populations.

Other topics that included panel discussions targeted heart failure and hypertension rates in African Americans, perceptions in the value of the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine based on ethnic differences and the growing prevalence of illicit drugs use by Hispanics. Each session included a question-and-answer session that probed more deeply into health disparities, public policy and social responsibility for health care.

In addition, the public and attendees had the opportunity to review poster presentations based on research in health disparities. The following student posters received awards for their efforts:

- Zeida Kon (School of Public Health)
- Kirtigandha Salwe (School of Public Health)
- Kim Aldy (Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences)

Finally, new STAR (Steps Toward Academic Research) Fellows for 2010 were announced. STAR Fellows are emerging junior faculty who receive a full year of collaborative training and interaction with faculty from the UNT Health Science Center and other institutions, directed toward fostering health disparities research initiatives, culminating in a competition for two \$25,000 grants for health disparities research. The winners for 2009 are Richard Palmer, DrPH, from Florida International University and Grant Wangila, PhD, from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. The program is funded by the National Center of Minority Health and Health Disparities through the Texas Center for Health Disparities.

IN THE NEWS

Health Science Center in the *Business Press*

The May 18 edition of the *Fort Worth Business Press* included the latest of President Scott Ransom's monthly columns highlighting options for revamping our national healthcare system. Richard Kurz, PhD, dean of the School of Public Health, also was [quoted in an article](#) about the often difficult decisions undocumented patients must make to receive health care.

Center identifies Oklahoma missing

Articles about the Oklahoma State Medical Examiner's Office use of the UNT Center for Human Identification appeared across the country in late May. Outlets carrying articles included The Associated Press, [The New York Times](#), the [Fort Mill \(S.C.\) Times](#), [KFOR News Channel 4](#) (Oklahoma City), KOKH Fox 25 – Oklahoma News, [nbcdfw.com](#), the [Dallas Morning News](#), the [Star-Telegram](#), [KOCO-TV](#) (Oklahoma City News), [al.com](#) (Alabama News), [Tulsa World](#), [Peace4theMissing.blogspot.com](#) (blog), [NewsOK.com](#), [KFSM-TV, Fort Smith, Ark., News](#) and the [Edmond Sun](#) (Edmond, Okla.).

Kidney cancer work announced

The team of Sharad Singhal, PhD, associate professor; Jyotsana Singhal, senior research assistant; Sushma Yadav, PhD, assistant professor; Mukesh Sahu, GSBS student; Yogesh Awasthi, PhD, professor; and Sanjay Awasthi, MD, professor, all of the Department of Molecular Biology and Immunology, published findings in *Cancer Research*, a publication of the American Association of Cancer Research, about the use of RLIP76 repression in kidney cancer therapy. Repression of the protein has already been shown to be effective in treatments of leukemia, melanoma, colon, lung, prostate and ovarian cancer.

KUDOS

Kathryn Cardarelli, PhD, MPH (SPH '99), assistant professor of Epidemiology, and **Brent Sorrells**, associate director of entrepreneurship for TECH Fort Worth, were named to *Fort Worth Business Press'* 2009 40 Under 40 list, featuring 40 Tarrant County business and community leaders under the age of 40. The list was included in the May 25 issue of the *Business Press*.

Abe Clark, PhD, professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy and Director of the North Texas Eye Research Institute, received the World Glaucoma Association's 2008 Research Award for his glaucoma research. Dr. Clark will receive the award at the World Glaucoma Congress in Boston next month.

Albert Yurvati, DO (TCOM '86), was re-elected chairman of the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery (AOBS) at its mid-year meeting last month. The AOBS oversees the examination, board certification and Osteopathic Continuous Certification of all AOA-trained surgeons. The Board is composed of 15 members representing osteopathic surgeons in all surgical specialties. The board was founded in 1945 and is headquartered in Dayton, Ohio.

Jennifer Treviño, MBA, chief of staff in the Office of the President, was featured in the Spring 2009 issue of *Neeley Magazine*, a publication of Texas Christian University's Neeley School of Business. The article highlights Treviño's community involvement with the Fort Worth Chapter of the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas and Leadership Fort Worth. Treviño earned her MBA from the Neeley School of Business in 2004.

John Schetz, PhD, associate professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, and **Stephen Grant, PhD**, associate professor of Molecular Biology and Immunology and Integrative Physiology, both completed [TECH Fort Worth's](#) Breakthrough program, designed to help university faculty develop their intellectual property into commercial opportunities.

Jean Tips, vice president of Marketing and Communications, and **Rob Spurgeon**, instructional media specialist, won a Bronze Award in the 2009 Health and Science Communications Association Media Festivals for the last year's Gala video featuring the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Tips and Spurgeon produced the video with the help of **Carla Lee**, director of graduate admissions and services.

Benjamin Cruz, School of Public Health student, was selected as one of 10 students in the country to earn the American Public Health Association's Public Health Education and Health Promotion Section Student Research Award. He will present his research, "Seasonal Variation of Water Quality Indicators and their Association with Climate Factors in North Central Texas," at the APHA meeting in Philadelphia in November. Also presenting at this meeting will be **Katandria John**, SPH student, who was selected by SPH's Delta Omega chapter to present a poster at the 2009 Delta Omega to participate in the poster session.

Bill Jones, director of Infrastructure and Security in Information Resources and Technology, recently was sworn in as Place 3 councilmember on the Azle City Council. Jones was previously chair of Azle's Park Board and a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Name: Jose L. Diaz

Title: Paint Shop Foreman

Department: Facilities Management

How long have you worked here, and what did you do before joining UNTHSC?

I've been working at the Health Science Center for four years. I was a painter in Westchester, N.Y., for 18 years before I moved to Texas in 2001. I've been painting all my life.

What are some of the recent projects that you have worked on?

I power washed and painted the sign in front of the PCC, and power washed the concrete outside the library, EAD and RES buildings. I also painted the entire hallway on the eighth floor of the EAD and painted the glaze finish in the Founders' Board room.

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

Everyone here is nice. Everyone respects me and my position, and I try to show them the same respect.

What do you like to do when you aren't at the Health Science Center? (Hobbies or pastimes)

Everyday is Monday for me! I have two kids in college at UT in Arlington—my son is studying to be an architect and my daughter wants to be a lawyer--so I'm working all the time. Aside from working at the Health Science Center, I paint and do odd jobs on the side. But, I make sure to spend Sundays with my family. We go to church and out to eat.

SAVE THE DATE**June 25****GSBS Reception to Celebrate Faculty Grants**

5 pm

Library Atrium

More details to come

July 10-11**UNTHSC Board of Visitors Meeting**

UNT Health Science Center

July 25**White Coat Ceremony**

2 pm

Will Rogers Auditorium

August 20 – 21**UNT System Board of Regents Meeting**

UNT Health Science Center

August 26**Employee Appreciation Day**

Details to come

October 10**UNTHSC Gala**

Celebrating the School of Public Health

September 7

Labor Day

November 26-27

Thanksgiving Holidays

December 9

Employee Holiday Lunch

Atrium

Details to come

December 17

President's Open House

EAD 8th Floor

Details to come

December 24- January 1, 2010

Christmas, Winter and New Year's Holidays

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

Campus Connection is published the first and third Fridays of each month by the Office of Marketing and Communications 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.

Matt Havlik

Communications Coordinator II

[@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu)

817-735-2554

Carl Bluemel

Electronic Media Manager

[@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:cbluemel@hsc.unt.edu)

817-735-2115