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MUSCULOSKELETAL MEDICINE RESEARCH CAPACITIES EXPANDED

Quality of life for one in every seven Americans is restricted by some sort of musculoskeletal condition such as arthritis, back pain, or athletic injuries. In the U.S., societal costs are estimated at \$254 billion annually. In recognition of these facts, 2002 to 2011 is the International Bone and Joint Decade.

Building on the strength of the research infrastructure at the national Osteopathic Research Center, the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation (OHF) has granted \$1.5 million to construct and equip the OHF Physical Medicine Core Research Facility in the Center for BioHealth at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC). Additional funds needed to complete the facility are being raised from private and public sources.

The OHF Physical Medicine Core Research Facility will offer collaborative research opportunities for orthopedic and manipulative medicine specialists in areas such as biomechanics and human performance. The core research laboratory will also support pre- and post-doctoral medical and basic science education in osteopathic manipulative medicine, orthopaedic surgery, and other aspects of musculoskeletal disease and somatic dysfunction.

Scott T. Stoll, D.O., Ph.D., Chair of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Executive Director of the national ORC, and David Lichtman, M.D., Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery and Director of the Bone and Joint Research Center, are working together under the mantle of the existing Physical Medicine Institute to acquire equipment and finalize construction plans. The total cost of the new 7,000-square-foot Core Research Facility is estimated at \$5 million.

The Physical Medicine Institute at UNTHSC is a natural progression for the osteopathic profession and for UNTHSC that expands on key organizational strengths. The Physical Medicine Institute (PMI) was established in 2000, and provides opportunities and infrastructure for collaborative research in many aspects of musculoskeletal medicine.


In addition to equipment and laboratory construction costs, UNTHSC President Scott Ransom has allocated \$1 million over four years to help recruit and hire a leader for our expanded musculoskeletal research efforts. Recruitment activities are in high gear, with faculty positions posted on the web site for UNTHSC, and invitations are being issued to potential candidates for special lectures and interviews. Recruitment announcements can be found at

<http://www.unthscjobs.com/applicants/Central?quickFind=51206> .

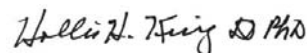
The ORC web site is located at <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/orc/default.asp> .

If you would like to be part of this historic venture, either as a faculty member (biomechanist or manual medicine specialist), or by making a gift (naming opportunities are available), please contact Cathleen Kearns at ckearns@hsc.unt.edu or by calling 817-735-0515.

Warm Regards,



Scott T. Stoll, D.O., Ph.D.
Executive Director



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Associate Executive Director