

Campus Connection Friday, June 20, 2008

Your biweekly source of news on UNTHSC people, plans and progress.

Strategic Thinking Councils update

When President Scott Ransom joined the Health Science Center, he created [strategic thinking councils](#) to explore and solve important issues and to help achieve our [goals](#). The councils comprise faculty, staff and administrators with varied experience, diverse viewpoints and strong knowledge and interest in the Health Science Center. There is a strategic thinking council for each of our five focus areas: administration, academic affairs, research, clinical affairs and community engagement.

The councils have provided guidance for several significant projects targeted to improve our people and our processes. Projects include new faculty and staff career development opportunities, improved faculty and staff evaluation processes, new efforts to retain and recruit faculty for our research areas of strength, including Alzheimer's disease, cancer and many more.

The councils are working with groups around campus to develop a five-year strategic plan for the organization that will guide the Health Science Center toward its goal of becoming a top-10 health science center.

To submit ideas or issues for the councils to consider, contact [Miranda Carter](#), executive assistant, in the Office of Strategy and Measurement.

For more on the councils' progress and future plans, visit the [President's Strategic Thinking Councils](#) page on the President's Corner of the UNTHSC Intranet. The site is updated regularly with council meeting minutes and membership information.

Kalish joins UNT Health Transformation Project

Chris Kalish, vice president and chief of staff to President Ransom, has taken a temporary assignment in UNT Health, working with Dr. Kathleen Forbes, executive vice president of Clinical Affairs and Business Development, and president and chief executive officer of UNT Health. Kalish will lead the UNT Health Transformation Project Team until September 1. Prior to joining President Ransom's staff, she was administrative director in the Department of Internal Medicine. She has significant experience in healthcare administration and served in executive roles for the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, as well as Parkland Health and Hospital System.

While Kalish is on temporary assignment, Jennifer Trevino, administrative director of the Health Institutes of Texas and director of Faculty Affairs and Room Scheduling, will serve as acting chief of staff to President Ransom. Trevino joined the UNTHSC staff in March 2007 and has progressively taken on additional responsibilities and assignments from the executive vice president of Academic Affairs and Research, and the Office of the President.

For more information, please contact the Office of the President at ext. 2264.

Employee Appreciation Day set

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Employee Appreciation Day on August 27. Once again President Scott Ransom and his team will don their aprons and serve up burgers (with a vegetarian option) and thank employees for their hard work over the past year. Lunch will be served in shifts on the Alumni Plaza. Each employee will receive a T-shirt with a new design to mark the occasion, and [EBAC](#) will provide carnival games. Watch Campus Connection and Daily News for the day's schedule and more information.

New research seminar series features Physical Medicine Institute

The [Research Office](#) has scheduled a short "Chalk and Talk" and social at 4:30 pm on Wednesday, July 2, in EAD room 706. The seminar is designed to spread the word about our areas of research expertise at the Health Science Center, stimulate collaboration and highlight new faculty.

The first seminar will feature Dr. Shrawan Kumar and Dr. Rita Patterson, both of the [Physical Medicine Institute](#), who will summarize their research and capabilities. An informal discussion will follow the presentations.

The "Chalk and Talk" series will continue quarterly. The next seminar will highlight new faculty in the School of Public Health and their research projects.

The event is open to all faculty and staff. To RSVP, contact [Bonnie Smith](#) at the Research Office.

Annual HUB Vendors Fair

As part of the Health Science Center's commitment to promoting equal opportunities for our vendors (including minority and women-owned businesses), the Purchasing Department will host a vendor fair for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) on Thursday, July 10, in the Atrium from 11 am to 2 pm. Several HUB vendors will showcase their goods and services, provide information and distribute product samples. Sign up at the registration table to be eligible for door prizes.

Find out more about the Health Science Center's HUB Program at [Purchasing's Web site](#).

Arthritis Expo this Saturday

The Health Science Center and the [Arthritis Foundation](#) are hosting Arthritis Expo 2008 from 9 am to 2:30 pm on Saturday, June 21, in the Atrium. Dr. Bernard Rubin, department chief of

Rheumatology, Dr. Russ Wagner, associate professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, and Dr. Dennis Minotti, resident in OMM, will lead a seminar on arthritis and answer questions. The expo features healthy cooking demonstrations, arthritis products and bone density screenings. It's all free (even lunch!) and open to the public. For more information, contact [Linda Davis](#) in Internal Medicine.

Governor names new student regent

Meghan Vittrup, who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in journalism at UNT Denton, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to serve as the student member of the [UNT System Board of Regents](#). She replaces recent HSC grad Diana Schulz, who served as student regent this past year. The Board of Regents' next meeting is here at the Health Science Center August 21–22.

Authorized by the Texas Legislature in 2005, the student regent holds a one-year term and is charged with representing the interests of students, as well as the interests of the State of Texas and the university system. While not a voting member of the nine-person UNT System Board of Regents, Vittrup will serve on various committees and attend meetings of the Board of Regents and other higher education meetings in the state. The System rotates the student regent position among each campus.

Vittrup is pursuing a degree in journalism, with a double minor in political science and Spanish. She has been director of internal operations for the Denton campus Student Government Association and vice president of Eagle Angels.

IN THE NEWS

CHID tests DNA of Candy Man victims

The Center for Human Identification is handling DNA analysis on three remaining unidentified bodies related to the Houston-area "Candy Man" serial killings of the early '70s. At least 48 media outlets, including the [Associated Press](#) and [USA Today](#), ran the article.

Bowman, Gilfillan and Lu in the news

[Several media](#) noted that Dr. W. Paul Bowman was appointed chair of pediatrics for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. Our recent conference on health disparities was featured in the [Fort Worth Business Press](#). Dr. Marc Hahn, dean of TCOM, and Dr. John Fling, acting chair of pediatrics and associate professor of Allergy and Immunology, remembered Dr. Bruce Gilfillan in the [Star-Telegram](#), and [KRLD radio 1080](#) broadcast an interview with Dr. Michael Lu, keynote speaker at the June 13 Infant Mortality Workshop hosted by the Health Science Center.

KUDOS

Dr. Victor Kosmopoulos, director of the Bone and Joint Research Center

... won the Best EuroSpine Poster Award at the [SpineWeek](#) conference in Geneva, Switzerland, last month. His poster, "Bias and Precision Errors in Cobbometer Total Disc Replacement Angle

Measurements,” was selected from more than 600 entries. Along with the 2,000-Euro prize, his poster will be published in an issue of the [European Spine Journal](#).

At the conference, Dr. Kosmopoulos also was granted membership to the [International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine](#).

Dr. Salvatore LoCoco, assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

... was appointed chair of the [Texas Medical Association’s](#) (TMA) Committee on Cancer. The committee supervises TMA’s cancer activities and promotes cancer education among physicians and the public. Dr. LoCoco’s term as chair will last through 2010.

Jennifer Trevino, administrative director of the Health Institutes of Texas and director of Faculty Affairs and Room Scheduling

... was appointed to the next class of [Leadership Fort Worth](#) – a 10-month leadership training program that broadens awareness of community issues while enhancing leadership skills and promoting networking. Many Health Science Center faculty and staff members have completed the Leadership Fort Worth program.

HR UPDATE

Benefits enrollment starts in July

Need to change your insurance coverage? The Employee Retirement System of Texas (ERS) summer enrollment for plan year 2009 is July 28 through August 22, 2008. During Summer Enrollment you can enroll in or change your insurance coverage for Plan Year 2009. If you don’t need to make changes, you don’t have to do anything. Current benefit selections, including [TexFlex](#) account deductions, will roll over to the new plan.

A summer enrollment fair will be held at the Health Science Center on August 6 in the Atrium. ERS staff and benefits vendors will provide information and answer questions to help you choose the best benefits for your situation.

Representatives from Human Resource Services will hold special sessions to answer questions and assist employees with enrollments and changes on the following dates:

July 30	10 am – noon	PCC 173
August 11	2 – 4 pm	PCC 173
August 13	4 – 6 pm	EAD 291

For more information on ERS summer enrollment, visit the [summer enrollment page on the ERS Web site](#) or contact Human Resource Services at ext. 2690.

SAVE THE DATE

June 22

Arthritis Expo

9 am – 2:30 pm

Luibel Hall and the Atrium

July 2

Chalk Talk Seminar and Social

“The Physical Medicine Institute, New Faculty, New Location, Great Research Opportunities”

4:30 – 6 pm

EAD 760

July 4

Independence Day Holiday

July 10

HUB Vendor Fair

11 am – 2 pm

Atrium

August 21 – 22

UNT System Board of Regents meeting

UNT Health Science Center

August 27

Employee Appreciation Day

Alumni Plaza

September 1

Labor Day Holiday

September 12

White Coat Ceremony

2 pm

Will Rogers Auditorium

September 26 - 27

Alumni Reunion 2008

6 am – 9 pm

Atrium and Fort Worth Hilton

October 25

UNTHSC Annual Gala

Celebrating the 15-Year Anniversary of the GSBS
Worthington Grand Ballroom

IN REMEMBRANCE

Dr. Bruce Gilfillan
Retired Associate Professor of Pediatrics
June 8, 2008

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 UNTSC Family communications by sending story ideas, news, suggestions and questions to news@hsc.unt.edu.

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