

Campus Connection Friday, July 18, 2008

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

Cowtown marathon to include UNTHSC name

The UNT Health Science Center is the new title sponsor of [The Cowtown](#). Now, the UNTHSC name will be included in the title of the annual multi-event race. The sponsorship will increase the Health Science Center's presence at the event and visibility in the Fort Worth community. The Health Science Center's concentrated sponsorship efforts on this signature event also create new opportunities for faculty, staff and students to get involved in the event. Watch Campus Connection for opportunities to participate as the February race nears.

Additionally, Jean Tips, vice president of Marketing and Communications, has joined Dr. Robert Kaman, professor, associate dean and director of outreach for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, on the Cowtown board of directors. Dr. Kaman founded the Cowtown marathon in 1978. TCOM and the Health Science Center have continued to support the event through sponsorship, promotion and by providing medical services. [Registration is underway](#) for next year's Cowtown on Feb. 28.

Volunteers needed for Hispanic Wellness Fair

More than 15,000 North Texans are expected to attend the 10th annual Hispanic Wellness Fair on Saturday, Aug. 2, at Will Rogers Memorial Center. The UNT Health Science Center and other area health organizations will provide free health education and screenings. Volunteers – especially bilingual – are needed for everything from setting up booths to translating. The UNT Health Science Center co-founded the Hispanic Wellness Fair in 1999 and continues to co-sponsor the event. The fair is free and open to the public from 9 am to 3 pm.

Dr. Richard Kurz, dean of the School of Public Health, serves on the board of the Hispanic Health Coalition, the group that organizes the event. He is also a member of the Hispanic Wellness Fair steering committee.

Volunteer information

Volunteers are needed to assist with screening services, translating (if bilingual in English and Spanish), distributing information, registering volunteers, filling out forms, and setting up and breaking down booths.

Volunteer shifts available:

- 8 am to 3:30 pm (breakfast and lunch provided for volunteers working a full-day shift)
- 8 am to noon
- Noon to 3:30 pm

Volunteer forms:
Single volunteer form
Group volunteer form

For more information on services offered at the fair click [here](#), or contact [Miriam Frias](#), Hispanic Wellness Fair Steering Committee chair, at 817-250-7677.

TCOM students score highest in nation on board exams

The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) Class of 2009 recently scored the best in the nation on the Level 1 [Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination \(COMLEX\)](#). This marks the third consecutive year that the medical school has been the top performer in the U.S. on this exam. This year's results are best in the nation for all osteopathic medical schools with a 98.5 percent pass rate and student mean score 8.5 percent above the national average.

UNTHSC celebrates collaboration with Cook Children's

The UNTHSC campus community is invited to a reception celebrating the Health Science Center's expanding collaboration with Cook Children's Health Care System and the appointment of [Dr. W. Paul Bowman](#), chair of Pediatrics for TCOM and director of Academic Pediatrics for Cook Children's Medical Center. The reception is Tuesday, July 22, from 5 to 6:30 pm in the Atrium.

Dr. Bowman's new appointments tie together the teaching and research capabilities of the Health Science Center with the renowned patient care of [Cook Children's Medical Center](#) and Physician Clinic network to bring leading-edge research and care to Tarrant County's patients. Under Dr. Bowman's leadership, TCOM student physicians can take advantage of the knowledge of Cook Children's physicians who will serve as faculty instructors for the medical school.

Read more about Dr. Bowman and the collaboration [here](#).

UNTHSC honored by Quality Texas Foundation

Planning and performance improvement are important steps in UNTHSC's journey to becoming a top 10 health science center. UNTHSC was one of only 18 organizations recently recognized by the [Quality Texas Foundation](#) for commitment to organizational performance improvement. The foundation is an organizational improvement training and education foundation that helps businesses and organizations achieve excellence through knowledge, feedback and recognition. This was the first year that UNTHSC applied for the recognition. To learn more about UNTHSC's planning and performance improvement, visit the [Office of Strategy and Measurement Web site](#).

NEWS BRIEFS

DNA Conference

More than 140 law enforcement representatives from Alaska to Georgia attended the Center for Human Identification's (CHID) three-day conference on DNA identification earlier this month. The group learned how DNA can help solve missing person cases and heard from a mother still searching for her son about the valuable service that the CHID provides to families of missing persons. A similar conference is scheduled in Baltimore in August.

Summer outreach students to present research

On Thursday, July 24, UNTHSC's [SMART](#) (Summer Multicultural Advanced Research Training), [McNair Scholars](#), [HBCU Undergraduate Collaborative Summer Training in Prostate Cancer](#), and [STARS](#) (Summer Training Among Research Scientists) summer program students will participate in a competitive poster session to highlight their research from this summer. The posters will be displayed in the Atrium from 8 to 11:30 am. An awards luncheon, including guest speakers, will follow from 12:15 to 2:15 pm in Everett Hall. Monetary awards will be given to top students in each of the programs. For more information on the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences' efforts to increase the number of under-represented students in the health professions, visit their [Outreach Web site](#).

TCOM Orientation next week

TCOM Orientation is scheduled for July 21 - 25. Approximately 180 DO and 44 PA students are expected to attend. The Atrium, Luibel, Everett and Beyer halls and EAD 506 will be used throughout the week for orientation. On Saturday, July 26, the Student Advocate Association (SAA) will hold a Family Day program for DO students' family members to learn what it's like to be a DO student's spouse, child or parent. Family members can join SAA during Family Day. Orientation is a joint effort among a variety of departments, faculty, staff, student organizations and offices. Thanks to all of these offices for participating! If you have any questions about TCOM Orientation, contact [Misty Smethers](#) at ext. 5006.

Welcome Board of Visitors

The UNTHSC Board of Visitors is holding its first meeting on campus today and tomorrow. The board is a national advisory group established to help support and advance UNTHSC's mission and programs. [Click here](#) for a list of the members.

New North Texas Health & Science magazine

The new summer 2008 issue of North Texas Health & Science features the UNTHSC DNA Lab's efforts to identify Pinochet coup victims in Chile, TCOM's Eye for Detail program, TECH Fort Worth's Acceleration Lab and the School of Public Health's participation in the South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) program. You'll also find the latest HSC and UNT Health news and a message from Dr. Scott Ransom, UNTHSC president.

Copies of the magazine will be delivered to each department, and a limited number of copies is available in the [Office of Marketing and Communication](#). Or, [read it online](#).

Internal Medicine docs now seeing patients at Eagle Ranch

Internal Medicine specialists in gastroenterology and cardiology are now seeing patients at the [Eagle Ranch Family Medicine Clinic](#) in Northwest Tarrant County. Dr. Pavani Muddasani sees

gastroenterology patients on Wednesdays, and cardiologist Dr. Charles DeBarardinis sees patients on Thursdays.

The coordination between the Internal and Family Medicine departments allows patients to see a physician closer to their homes and helps maintain continuity of care. To make an appointment, contact the Call Center at (817)735-DOCS (3627) or the Eagle Ranch Specialty Line at (817)236-9845. Eagle Ranch Family Medicine, 7235 Boat Club Rd., will also conduct sports physicals for athletes on Monday, July 28, beginning at 5:30 pm.

IN THE NEWS

Dr. Marc Hahn

Dr. Marc Hahn, DO and dean of TCOM, was quoted in the *Amarillo Globe News* regarding the shortage of primary care physicians, especially in rural Texas.

Center for Human Identification IDs remains

WFAA, the ABC affiliate in Dallas-Ft. Worth, broadcast a three-minute segment on the Center for Human Identification's recent law enforcement conference and our efforts to identify human remains. Plus, the DNA lab was noted in the identification of remains in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Corpus Christi and North Carolina in articles in the *Hope News* (Ark.), Wilmington (N.C.) *Star News* and the *Oklahoman*, as well as channels KFDX in Wichita Falls, and KRIS in Corpus Christi.

More Knowledge in the Sciences program

The *Fort Worth Business Press* highlighted our [MKITS](#) (More Knowledge in the Sciences) program, following local high school students into the gross anatomy lab for a lesson. A photo of Dr. Robert Routh, assistant professor of Cell Biology and Genetics, and two students accompanied the article.

Founder's Activity Center

This week the *Fort Worth Business Press* published a list of area fitness centers and gyms. UNTHSC's Founder's Activity Center ranked fifth on the list based on the number of members. The list was part of a larger article on the business of sports.

KUDOS

Dennis Shingleton, assistant dean for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

... has been selected to chair the committee for [Let's Talk Fort Worth](#) – a citywide conversation to generate ideas to help shape the city's future for the next 20 years. Let's Talk Fort Worth is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Will Rogers Memorial Center auditorium. Shingleton also serves on the Fort Worth City Plan Commission.

Dr. Richard Kurz, dean of the School of Public Health

... was quoted in an article on the importance of faculty research in the June/July 2008 issue of [The Nation's Health](#), the official newspaper of the [American Public Health Association](#).

Dr. Janice Knebl, chief of the Division of Geriatrics

... was featured in [Digest 2008](#), Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine's (PCOM) alumni magazine. Dr. Knebl was interviewed for a feature on women in medicine. She graduated from PCOM in 1982.

Dr. Al Yurvati, professor and chair of Surgery (TCOM '86)

... won the Lonestar State Natural Bodybuilding Championship in the grand masters division (50-60) for the second year in a row.

Dr. Bob Mallet, associate professor of Integrative Physiology

... was appointed to a three-year term as associate editor for physiology for the international journal [Experimental Biology and Medicine](#) beginning in July. Dr. Mallet replaces Dr. Jim Caffrey, professor of Integrative Physiology, who completed two terms in the post.

TCOM faculty and alumni were honored at the joint [Texas Osteopathic Medical Association](#) (TOMA) and [Texas Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians](#) (TXACOF) convention in June:

Dr. Marc B. Hahn, TCOM dean

... received TOMA's Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes outstanding accomplishments in scientific, philanthropic or other fields of public service to the profession.

Dr. Brooks M. Blake (TCOM '99)

...received the New Physician of the Year Award. Dr. Blake, an osteopathic manipulative medicine specialist in Marble Falls, was honored for outstanding community service. He was recognized for donating free tattoo removal services for youth turning away from gang-related activities.

Dr. T. Eugene Zachary, emeritus professor in family medicine

...received the T. Robert Sharp Meritorious Service Award from the TXACOF at its recent convention. This award is given for outstanding service to community, profession and the TXACOF.

TCOM faculty and alumni were also elected to TOMA offices for 2008-2009 at the convention:

President

Dr. Monte E. Troutman, chief of the Division of Gastroenterology

Vice President

Dr. Elizabeth A. Palmarozzi, chair of the Department of Family Medicine and TCOM Class of '84

House of Delegates

Dr. Duane Selman, family and emergency medicine physician in Arlington and (TCOM '87)

Dr. Ray L. Morrison, general surgeon in Crockett (TCOM '86)

Board of Trustees

Dr. Audrey R. Jones, family physician in Alamo (TCOM '88)

HR UPDATE

Benefits changes for plan year 2009

New HealthSelect prescription drug benefits manager

Starting Sept. 1, 2008, [Caremark](#) will replace Medco as the HealthSelectSM of Texas prescription drug benefit manager. Drug copayments, deductible and covered drug list (formulary) are not changing. You can still get your prescriptions from your local pharmacy or mail order.

The Employee Retirement System (ERS) chose to re-bid this contract to get lower program costs and to help keep out-of-pocket costs as low as possible. The new contract with Caremark will save nearly \$265 million over the next four years. These projected savings helped to keep HealthSelect medical and drug benefits the same, with no premium increase for Plan Year 2009.

What you need to know about this change:

- You will get two new HealthSelect cards sent to your home: a medical card from BlueCross BlueShield to show at your doctor's office and a prescription drug card from Caremark to show at your pharmacy.
- You can still go to your local pharmacy. You will need to show your new prescription drug ID card to your pharmacist so you pay the right amount.

- You will continue to fill any new or mail order refill prescriptions with Medco through Aug. 31. Caremark will start filling new mail service prescriptions on Sept. 1.
- If you have refills left on a mail service prescription after Aug. 31, your refill information will transfer from Medco to Caremark on Sept. 1.
- Your drug card comes in a welcome kit with more information, including the telephone number for Caremark’s San Antonio customer service center dedicated to HealthSelect participants.

For more information, visit the [ERS Web site](#) or read the [Time to learn about Caremark](#) flyer.

TexFlex Flexible Spending Accounts administrative fee

Also starting Sept. 1, 2008, an annual TexFlex administrative fee of \$24 will be charged for each of your TexFlex Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA). The full \$24 administrative fee is reduced from your FSA account balance in your first month of participation. If you are enrolled in both FSA-Health and FSA-Day Care, the \$24 administrative fee is reduced from EACH account during the first month of participation. Employees who elect TexFlex for the first time during the plan year are charged a pro-rated administrative fee at the rate of \$2 per month, based on the first month of participation.

For more information on changes to FSA-Day Care, FSA-Health, and TexFlex™ Debit Cards, visit the [ERS Web site](#).

Representatives from Caremark and PayFlex, the administrator for the TexFlex Program, will be available to answer any questions you may have about these changes at the Summer Enrollment Fair at the Health Science Center on Aug. 6 from 8 to noon in the Atrium.

Benefits enrollment starts July 28

Need to change your insurance coverage? The ERS summer enrollment for plan year 2009 is July 28 through Aug. 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 Aug. 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 (HRS) 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
Aug. 11	2 – 4 pm	PCC 173

Aug. 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 HRS at ext. 2690.

HRS professional development training schedule now online

HRS offers a variety of professional development opportunities for UNTHSC alumni and employees. You can now view schedules and enroll for training on the [HRS Web site](#). For more information about professional development contact [Cassandra Molavrh](#) at ext. 5091.

SAVE THE DATE

July 18 - 19

UNTHSC Board of Visitors meeting

UNT Health Science Center

July 22

Reception for Dr. W. Paul Bowman, chair of Pediatrics

5 – 6:30 pm

Atrium

July 21- 25

DO Orientation

UNT Health Science Center

July 30

HRS benefits enrollment information session

10 am – noon

PCC 173

August 6

Employee Retirement System Summer Enrollment Fair

9 am - noon

Atrium

August 11

HRS benefits enrollment information session

2 – 4 pm

PCC 173

August 13

HRS benefits enrollment information session

4 – 6 pm

EAD 291

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

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.

Carl Bluemel

Electronic Media Manager

cbluemel@hsc.unt.edu

817-735-2115

Matt Havlik

Communications Coordinator II

mhavlik@hsc.unt.edu

817-735-2554

Campus Connection

University of North Texas Health Science Center

817.735.2554

3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard | EAD 834 | Fort Worth TX | 76107-2699