

## **Campus Connection** Friday, October 17, 2008

Your biweekly source of news on UNT Health Science Center people, plans and progress.

### **Campus Pride update: We're half way there**

Just two weeks into the 2008 *Campus Pride* Annual Giving Campaign, and we're half way toward our participation goal. The campaign continues throughout October, so you still have plenty of time to donate to the Campus Pride Campaign or the State Employee Charitable Campaign.

Remember, every employee who donates at least \$5 to the campaign will be entered in a drawing for a one-week stay at the [Royal Islander Resort](#) in Cancun, Mexico, and two round-trip tickets on American Airlines.

To donate, fill out your pledge forms and return them to your [team captains](#). Return them by today to be eligible for the next prize drawing.

Everyone who returns his or her form will receive a thank-you gift and is eligible for weekly prize drawings. And, departments with 100 percent of employees donating will be eligible for a pizza party. A drawing for the pizza party will be held after the campaign ends.

### **This week's prize drawing winners:**

**I-Fen Chang**, research associate in cell biology and genetics

Prizes: Two-night stay in a King Room at the Residence Inn Marriott and a Nike athletic bag with a shirt and golf balls

**Cynthia Dilldine**, accounting clerk

Prizes: Two-night stay in a King Room at the Residence Inn Marriott and a garment bag with free monogramming, a shirt, pens and pads.

Donations to the *Campus Pride* Campaign help fund several important UNT Health Science Center initiatives. Money raised last year supported:

- Local relief efforts for Hurricane Ike evacuees. Through the UNT Health Science Center Fund for Excellence, employees donated \$5,000 to the Tarrant Area Food Bank, which paid for 25,000 meals to those in need.
- The UNT Health Science Center's research in cancer, Alzheimer's disease, human identification and heart disease.
- Scholarships for the UNT Health Science Center's diverse student body. This year you can choose which UNT Health Science Center Foundation scholarship you would like to support. The list of scholarships is now on the [Institutional Advancement Web site](#).

- The Hispanic Wellness Fair. The annual event, which the UNT Health Science Center helped found, provided free health services to more than 15,000 North Texans this year.
- A 40th anniversary history book that is being published to document and share the UNT Health Science Center's unique history.

For more information on the 2008 *Campus Pride* Annual Giving Campaign, contact [Susan Smith](#) (ext. 2174) or [Jen Pendell](#) (ext. 2430) in Institutional Advancement. For information about the State Employee Charitable Campaign, contact [Marco Mendoza](#) (ext. 2230) in Human Resources.

### **Treviño named chief of staff**

Jennifer Treviño was named chief of staff for the Office of the President effective Oct. 15. As chief of staff, Treviño will provide general administrative support to President Scott Ransom and supervise employees in the Office of the President. She also will provide leadership in developing and executing the strategic plans of the Health Science Center.

Treviño has served in several roles since she joined the organization in March 2007, including administrative director for the Health Institutes of Texas, director of the Office of Faculty Affairs and, most recently, acting chief of staff. Prior to joining the Health Science Center, Treviño was a product marketing manager for RadioShack. She holds an MBA from Texas Christian University.

The chief of staff position was previously held by Chris Kalish, who now serves as chief transformation officer for UNT Health.

### **Want to quit smoking? UNTHSC can help**

As part of our mission to improve the health of the community, our students and employees, the Health Science Center will help you kick your tobacco habit with the PATCH (Positive Attitudes Toward Changing Habits) Program. The free program, designed to help you quit and stay tobacco free, includes eight weeks of group sessions with Shawn Jefferies, PhD, assistant professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and provides nicotine patches or gum. The required sessions are Thursdays at noon in EAD 291 and 719 beginning Oct. 23. The program is available to students, employees and employees' benefits-eligible relatives. Ten spaces were still available in the program at press time. Contact Nicki McGee, health promotions manager, at ext. 2069 to register or get more information.

*The UNT Health Science Center is a smoke-free campus.*

### **Free flu shots coming soon**

Flu season is right around the corner and just like last year, the Health Science Center will

provide free flu vaccines for faculty, staff, students and retirees. Everyone is encouraged to get a flu shot, especially employees and students who have direct patient contact and greater risk of exposure to the virus.

As soon as the vaccines are available, information on where and when you can get a flu shot will be communicated to the campus through e-mail and Daily News.

## **NEWS BRIEFS**

### **New North Texas Health & Science magazine is here**

The latest issue of *North Texas Health & Science* is here. The Fall 2008 issue, focused on what it takes to be a DO, is available throughout campus in new magazine racks. Pick up a copy from the new black racks at these locations:

- EAD, second floor by the south elevators
- RES, first floor by the elevators
- PCC, first floor lobby
- CBH, first floor lobby
- Lewis Library, second floor lobby near Java Lab
- May Street offices

### **Construction updates: Building A excavation starts soon**

The Health Science Center Master Plan continues to take shape. Austin Commercial, the general contractor for Building A, is scheduled to arrive at the former Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas site by the end of October. They will begin excavating the site soon. Get a birds-eye view of the progress any time with the [EAD webcam](#) and [PCC webcam](#).

### **CBH Progress**

Lab space and offices on the fourth floor of the Center for BioHealth (CBH) are scheduled to be completed before Thanksgiving. Construction planning for the sixth floor of the CBH continues.

### **Employees and students: Complete Mandatory HIPAA Training by Oct. 30**

All faculty, staff and students must complete the 2009 online HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) training by **Oct. 30, 2008**. Go to the [online HIPAA training](#) to complete the training module. If you don't or someone in your department doesn't have access to a computer, please contact Human Resource Services or the Compliance Office. For more information, please contact [Jaya Mehta](#) (ext. 2571) or [Ruby Gentry](#) (ext. 2730) in the Institutional Compliance Office (EAD 416).

### **New USPS rules may affect your department**

To cut down on the amount of mail that requires forwarding and return, the U.S. Postal Service

is changing some policies that may affect the Health Science Center. Starting Nov. 23, the USPS will require that all mailing addresses be updated at least 95 days prior to the date of mailing. These rules have been in effect for first-class, presort mail for a few years, but now include all standard mail (letters, flats and parcels).

The Office of Marketing and Communications will hold a seminar to discuss these changes and the challenges they might pose for the UNT Health Science Center. Watch Daily News for more details.

### **TCOM alums join UNT Health**

**Melanie C. Barron**, DO, TCOM '00, and **Beth Ann Valashinas**, DO, TCOM '02, both rheumatologists, recently joined the Department of Internal Medicine. Drs. Barron and Valashinas, who both served rheumatology fellowships at Plaza Medical Center before joining UNT Health, will see patients at the Patient Care Center.

**Lori R. Roth**, PA-C, also joined the Department of Internal Medicine recently in the Division of Cardiology. She is a graduate of University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Piscataway, N.J.

### **Hulen Clinic expands with multi-specialties**

UNT Health's services and facilities at the Hulen Internal Medicine Clinic are expanding into additional space to accommodate more medical specialties. The Hulen Clinic is located at 4925 South Hulen St.

Patients from the Bluebonnet Pediatric Clinic, which stopped seeing patients at that location at the first of October due to concerns about the building facility and environment, will move into the expanded facilities later this year. Currently, Drs. Sarah Matches, Toyya Goodrich and their physician assistants are seeing patients in offices on the first floor of the PCC. When the Hulen Clinic expansion is complete physicians will care for internal medicine, pediatric and family practice patients.

### **Breathing guru to lead wellness symposium**

Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of the [Art of Living Foundation](#), will present "Psychosomatic Wellness: An Antidote for Stress," a symposium for health professionals and the community from 1 to 3 pm on Oct. 29 at the [Will Rogers Auditorium](#). Shankar, along with guest speakers including James Caffrey, PhD, professor of integrative physiology, will discuss psychoneuroimmunology, research data on the health benefits of rhythmic breathing and breathing techniques. This symposium is sponsored by the student Art of Living Club. AMA PRA Category 2 credit is available.

## IN THE NEWS

### Faculty members in the news

This week, **Harvey Brenner**, PhD, was quoted by [ABC News online](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#) and the [Fort Worth Business Press](#) regarding the psychological impact of the economic crisis. A similar article appeared in at least one national blog. **Jyotsana Singhal**, senior research associate in molecular biology and immunology, is quoted in [Calibre Macro World](#) on his work regarding RLIP 76 enzyme research, and **Bobby Lanier**, MD, adjunct clinical professor in pediatrics, was quoted in [Huginonline.com](#) regarding his research on allergy/asthma and Xolair.

### Business Press highlights PA week and new docs

Our student physician assistants were highlighted in the [Fort Worth Business Press](#) for Physician Assistant Week. And **Drs. Melanie Barron, Beth Ann Valashinas and Glenn Dillon, PhD**, were noted for their new appointments with UNTHSC and UNT Health.

### President Ransom's new column

**Dr. Scott Ransom's** monthly column in the [Fort Worth Business Press](#) highlighted Texas' need for more primary care physicians and how local officials and leaders can address the issue.

## HR UPDATE

### Policy Reminder: Smoke-free campus

The Health Science Center has a no-smoking policy in place for the entire campus to ensure the health of our employees, students and visitors. The policy prohibits smoking everywhere on the Health Science Center campus, including clinics, classrooms, buildings, state-owned vehicles and outside property.

Read today's top stories for more on the Health Science Center's free PATCH program that helps employees and students stop smoking.

**Did you know:** In 1987, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine became the first medical school in Texas to be entirely smoke free.

### Teacher Retirement System leaders respond to economic changes

On Sept. 17 and Oct. 6, [Teacher Retirement System of Texas](#) (TRS) leaders participated in a

conference call to discuss how recent changes in international financial markets may affect TRS and its members. If you missed either call you can hear them anytime on the TRS Web site: [Sept. 17 call](#), [Oct. 6 call](#).

## **KUDOS**

**Texas OPTI** (Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institutions) received Blue Ribbon OPTI recognition from the American Osteopathic Association. The program “met with excellence” all four qualifying standards for the recognition. [Texas OPTI](#) at the Health Science Center is an educational consortium committed to the advancement of osteopathic postdoctoral training.

**Shrawan Kumar**, PhD, professor and co-director of the Physical Medicine Institute, was named associate editor of [PM&R](#), the new official journal of the [American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation](#).

**Miriam Garcia**, TCOM '11, was selected to receive the Sherry R. Arnstein Minority Student Scholarship for 2008 from the [American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine](#) (AACOM). The scholarship, named for former AACOM Executive Director Sherry R. Arnstein, recognizes underrepresented minority students at AACOM's member colleges of osteopathic medicine.

**UNT Health Science Center and UNT Health staffers** raised breast cancer awareness at the Frogs for the Cure event during TCU's football game on Oct. 16 at Amon G. Carter Stadium. **Randy Sachs**, clinical marketing manager; **Jean Tips**, vice president of marketing and communications; **Chris Kalish**, chief transformation officer for UNT Health; and **Amy Buresh**, assistant marketing manager, handed out the famous pink UNT Health and UNTHSC weepuls to game attendees. Both the UNT Health and UNT Health Science Center logos were displayed on the score board during the game, and Tips was featured in an interview highlighting the Health Science Center on 103.3 FM ESPN radio.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**October 25**

**DO Dash 5k/1k**

8 am

UNT Health Science Center Campus

[www.dodash2008.com](http://www.dodash2008.com)

**UNTHSC Annual Gala**

***To Your Health: Unmasking Discoveries***

6:30 pm

Renaissance Worthington Hotel

[www.hsc.unt.edu/toyourhealth](http://www.hsc.unt.edu/toyourhealth)

**October 31**

**EBAC Trick or Treating**

Wear your costume for candy.

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Kiva Lounge

**November 20-21**

**UNT System Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting**

UNT Denton

<http://untsystem.unt.edu/regents/>

**November 27-28**

**UNT Health Science Center Thanksgiving Holidays**

**December 5**

**UNTHSC Annual Craft Show**

10 am – 3 pm

Atrium

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

**December 22 – January 2**

**UNT Health Science Center Winter Holidays**

**Campus Connection**

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