

Campus Connection Friday, June 19, 2009

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

TOP STORIES

Alumnus makes \$2.1 million gift to TCOM

Rick Hill, DO (TCOM '78), and his wife, Cindy, have made an estate gift totaling \$2.1 million, the largest single gift ever, to the UNT Health Science Center. When the gift is fully endowed, it will provide scholarships to Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) students training to become primary care physicians in Texas. The estate gift features assets including Hill's collection of rare automobiles including a 1931 Model A and a 2005 Ford GT, among many others.

The Hills have also made an initial donation in honor of TCOM's first dean, the late Henry Hardt, to award the first scholarship this year. Hill will honor others who were instrumental in his success with future annual gifts.

Rick Hill has practiced as a family physician in Humble, Texas, for 30 years. In recognition of his gift, he was presented the Doctor of Philanthropy honor by the Health Science Center at TCOM's reception at the recent Texas Osteopathic Medical Association/Texas Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Family Physicians joint convention in Arlington.

Look for more on Hill and his donation in the upcoming Summer 2009 issue of North Texas Health and Science magazine.

TCOM faculty, alumni receive TOMA and TxACOFP honors

A dozen Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) faculty and alumni were honored at the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) and Texas Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (TxACOFP) joint convention in Arlington earlier this month. Awards were presented at the convention, and the annual election of officers installed several members of the TCOM family into positions in both organizations.

TCOM faculty and alumni who received awards at the convention include:

Bruce Dubin, DO, interim TCOM dean, received the TOMA Meritorious Service Award. This award is presented in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in scientific, philanthropic or other fields of public service to the osteopathic profession in Texas.

Richard Gray, DO (TCOM '09), received TOMA's Student Doctor of the Year Award. This is presented to a fourth-year osteopathic medical student in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academic achievement, leadership, and service to the community and the profession. He graduated May 16. He was unable to attend the convention because he has reported to Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, Ill., to begin a Family Medicine residency.

Rick Lin, DO (TCOM '01), received TOMA's New Physician of the Year Award, presented to a DO in practice five years or less. It recognizes community service, excellence in osteopathic practice and contributions to public health.

TCOM faculty and alumni elected to TOMA and TxACOFP offices for the 2009-10 term include:

Damon Schranz, DO (TCOM '98), assistant professor of Family Medicine, director of clinical preceptorship, vice chair of education in Community Medicine – president of the Texas ACOFP

Elizabeth Palmarozzi, DO (TCOM '84), associate professor of Family medicine, Central Family Medicine Clinic chair – TOMA President-elect

Patrick Hanford, DO (TCOM '83) – TOMA vice president

Duane Selman, DO (TCOM '87) – speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates

Ray Morrison, DO (TCOM '86) – re-elected vice speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates

Paula Rossi, DO (TCOM '04) – a two-year term on the TOMA Board of Trustees

Steve Worrell, DO (TCOM '80) – re-elected to a three-year term on the TOMA Board of Trustees

John McClanahan, DO (TCOM '08) – intern/resident trustee

David Anderson, TCOM OMS 2 – student trustee.

Update on proposed MD school

At the UNT System Board of Regents public meeting in March, the Health Science Center was asked to further study the proposal of adding a separate MD school. The Board of Regents also requested that the Health Science Center develop an academic and business plan for the proposed MD school with the help of an outside consulting firm. The Health Science Center has posted a [request for proposals](#) for these consulting services and created a Core Team, led by Kathleen Forbes, MD, and Thomas Yorio, PhD, to work with the consulting firm to develop the academic and business plan. The consulting firm will be selected in July and will work with the Core Team throughout the summer and fall and will present the plan at the November Board of Regents meeting. Watch for updates on the [Study Group Web site](#).

Timeline:

June

- [Consulting services request for proposal](#) posted
- UNTHSC Core Team identified:
 - Kathleen Forbes, MD – co-chair, executive vice president of Clinical Affairs and Business Development and president/CEO of UNT Health
 - Thomas Yorio, PhD – co-chair, provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs

- Ralph Anderson, MD – chair and assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Bruce Dubin, DO, JD – interim dean, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Christine Moranetz, PhD – associate dean for Academic Affairs, School of Public Health
- Meharvan “Sonny” Singh, PhD – associate professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Jennifer Treviño, MBA – chief of staff, Office of the President

July

- Consulting firm selection
- Consulting firm meets with key stakeholders

August

- Consultants work with UNTHSC Core Team to develop draft academic and business plan for proposed MD degree program

September

- Refinement of academic and business plan after review with UNTHSC leadership and internal and external stakeholders

October

- Consultants work with UNTHSC Core Team and leadership to prepare Board of Regents presentation and report.

November

- Presentation of academic and business plan to Board of Regents for decision on whether or not to move forward

Benefits enrollment begins July 6

The Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS) summer enrollment period is July 6-31. During summer enrollment, you can enroll in or change your insurance coverage for Plan Year 2010. Human Resource Services (HRS) is ready to help. If you have questions or need help making changes to your benefits you can contact HRS, visit ERS Online or attend an enrollment session on campus next month. Remember, if you don't need to make changes, you don't have to do anything—current benefit selections will roll over to the new plan.

HRS benefits representatives:

The Human Resource Benefits Representatives will be available to assist you with your insurance changes and answer any questions you may have:

Angelina Shelby at ext. 2693

Stella Fair at ext. 2696

Victoria Zamora at ext. 2636

Make changes online:

Remember that during Summer Enrollment, you can make benefits changes without leaving your office by using ERS-Online. To access ERS Online:

1. Sign in to the ERS website at www.ers.state.tx.us and click on ERS Online.
2. Type in your User ID and your password.
 - a. NOTE: You will now need to register with ERS Online to access your benefits information and to make your benefits changes via ERS Online. To register, click on the “Register” button to create your user ID and password.
3. Click on the Benefits Enrollment link and enter your changes.

Enrollment sessions:

The Benefits Representatives also will be available to assist you at enrollment sessions held during the Summer Enrollment period. The dates, times and locations are listed below:

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Thursday, July 9, 2009 | 10 am – noon | Patient Care Center – Room 173 |
| Monday, July 13, 2009 | 2 – 4 pm | SPH Computer Lab – EAD 703 |
| Wednesday, July 15, 2009 (Spanish interpreter available) | 4 – 6 pm | HRS Training Room – EAD 291 |

Evidence of insurability:

Some benefits changes require evidence of insurability (EOI).

These benefits changes can be made without EOI:

- Waive health insurance
- Add dependents to your health and dental plans
- Drop dependents from your health and dental plans
- Enroll/drop or change dental plans
- Waive or reduce optional life and accidental death & dismemberment insurance (AD&D)
- Enroll/re-enroll in TexFlex
- Apply/re-apply for TexFlex Convenience Card
- Re-Enroll in the SKIP Program
- Select a primary care physician via ERS on-line

These benefit changes will require EOI:

- Enroll in medical insurance from a waived status
- Enroll in/increase optional life insurance
- Enroll in short and long term disability
- Enroll dependents in dependent life insurance
- Enroll in Long Term Care

You can send in your EOI forms right away. EOI forms must be postmarked no later than July 31. Contact HRS for an EOI form.

Opt-out plan:

If you have health insurance that is either comparable to or better than the State-provided health insurance, you can **waive** the State medical insurance **and** choose the Health-Select Opt-Out Plan to receive a credit of \$60 if you are a full-time employee or \$30 if you are a part-time employee to apply toward the purchase of dental and/or Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage (AD&D).

NEWS BRIEFS

Mathe' heads new palliative care unit

Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Fort Worth, held an open house for its new palliative care unit last Friday which boasts Alvin Mathe', DO (TCOM '89), as medical director. Mathe' is an assistant professor of medicine within the division of geriatrics for UNT Health. The new 16-room unit will give patients relief from pain and the stress caused by serious illness. The goal of palliative care is to prevent and relieve suffering and to ensure the best quality of life for patients and their families.

Join GSBS toast to grant winners

On Thursday, June 25, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences will present a dean's toast at a reception to celebrate faculty and students who have received grant awards in the last quarter. The event will be held on the second floor of the Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library (just outside the Java Lab) at 5 pm. We also will celebrate our new Department of Forensic and Investigative Genetics. Grant winners include, Julian Borejdo, PhD; Subhamoy Dasgupta, PhD candidate; Anuja Ghorpade, PhD; Kirti Jain, PhD candidate; Soumya Krishnamurthy, PhD candidate; Rong Ma, PhD candidate; and James Simpkins, PhD. Click here for the printable invitation.

Ceremony marks beginning of TCOM students' clerkships

The Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Class of 2011 will mark the beginning of the clinical rotation period of their training with a Student Clinician Ceremony on June 26 at 5:30 pm at the Norris Conference Center.

Outstanding interns and residents will be recognized with the Arnold P. Gold Foundation's Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award, selected by third-year TCOM students; the Coleman Award for Outstanding Pre-Clinical Faculty, selected by second-year students; and the Outstanding Basic Sciences Faculty Award, selected by first- and second-year students.

The ceremony is a celebration and a transition from the formal didactic period of the first two years of medical school and the entrance into the clinical rotation period of the third and fourth years. It helps reinforce the importance of ethical values and patient-centered care in the clinical setting and is organized by the [Medical Student Government Association](#).

2009-2010 course catalog now online

For the latest edition of the [UNT Health Science Center course catalog](#) go to the [Prospective Students page](#) of the Health Science Center's Web site. The catalog includes the latest information on the Health Science Center and academic information for all of its schools.

Watch commencement speeches online

Speeches by Rep. Michael Burgess and Devin Flaherty, DO, PhD, at the Health Science Center's commencement ceremonies on May 16 are now online. [Click here for Burgess' speech](#). [Click here for Flaherty's speech](#). Also, check out the Health Science Center's [Flickr page](#) for photos from the ceremonies.

Annual HUB Vendor 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 its annual vendor fair for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) on Wednesday, July 15, in the EAD-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](#).

New orthopaedic specialists join UNT Health

Four new orthopaedic specialists have joined UNT Health and are ready to assist patients with everything from sports medicine to spine, foot and ankle problems. **Brian Webb, MD, Donald Stewart, MD,** and **Viorel Raducan, MD,** all orthopaedic surgeons with subspecialties, will see patients in Fort Worth and Arlington. Webb is a sports medicine specialist; Stewart is a foot and ankle reconstruction specialist; while Raducan specializes in neck and spine surgery. **Pam Sherman, MD,** a hand/upper extremity surgeon, will join the practice in September.

Free Hepatitis C screenings today

Special Design Health Care will provide free Hepatitis C screenings from 11 am to 3 pm on June 19 on the 4th floor of the Patient Care Center. Health Science Center employees and students who come in contact with blood are encouraged to get a screening. Results are anonymous and will be sent directly to the individual. For more information contact Lynn Holmes in Internal Medicine at ext. 2346.

HR UPDATE

Take the employee retention survey

The President's Leadership Development Institute invites you to take a survey to measure faculty and staff satisfaction in the workplace. Responses will help identify opportunities to improve employee retention at the Health Science Center.

[Click here](#) for the online survey. It will be open until Friday, July 3.

Click here for a printable survey. Please return to Cassandra Molavrh in HRS through interoffice mail.

Nominees selected for Management Development Program

Twenty four Health Science Center employees have been selected for Human Resource Services' first Management Development Program starting this month. The program will help UNTHSC employees enhance their leadership skills through monthly courses and computer-based training on a variety of management topics.

Trisha Van Duser

Laurie Crain

AJ Randolph

Rene Arcand

Lee Tayon

Eryn Loney

Jack Thetford

Dean Conine

Susan Ross

Randall Christopher

Christopher Aldridge

Wilson Bowling

Carolyn RodgersJose Diaz

Lane Nestman

Kim Schaade

Connie Ross

Dudley Craig

Lydia Zarate

Gayanne Clemens

Amy Buresh

Steve Fogoros

Haeleigh Norton

Rebel Jones

HRS will offer the Management Development Program twice a year. Contact Cassandra Molavrh at ext. 5091 for more information.

IN THE NEWS

Brenner comments on CNN.com

During the past week, Harvey Brenner, PhD, professor of Social and Behavior Sciences, was quoted on [CNN.com](#) regarding life expectancy and health care expenditures saying, "'The higher the government expenditure on health care, the lower will be the mortality rate.'

Lichtman's story reaches across U.S.

Several media outlets including the [Boston Globe](#) picked up the article about Dr. David Lichtman's new bachelor's degree from Tufts University. And the Health Disparities Conference was featured on the front page of the [Fort Worth Business Press](#), complete with photos supplied by Marketing and Communications. The Center for Community Health's HPV Acceptability Study results were published in about 75 media outlets this week, including [Forbes](#).

KUDOS

Michelle West, assistant director of major gifts in Institutional Advancement, and **Christine Moranetz**, PhD, associate dean for curricular enhancement in Social and Behavioral Sciences, were both 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. They join a list of dozens of other Health Science Center faculty and staff members who have completed the Leadership Fort Worth program.

SPH student's system used during H1N1 outbreak

A School Health Surveillance System created by **Tabatha Powell**, MPH, SPH doctoral student, in partnership with the Southwest Center for Advanced Public Health, will be featured in a story on the Website for the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP). CIDRAP is an expert in infectious disease and surveillance research. The new system is a Web-based portal that improves communications between public health and area public schools, especially during an infectious disease outbreak. It was put to work during the recent H1N1 (Swine) flu outbreak. Powell also is working on a guidance document that other health departments can use as a resource for developing individual school health surveillance systems.

TCOM alumnus is IOMA's physician of the year

The Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association (IOMA) has named **Dane Johnson, DO** (TCOM '80), its physician of the year. IOMA presents this award to member osteopathic physicians who exhibit notable commitment to their profession, patients and colleagues. Johnson is a surgeon in Mt. Ayr, Iowa, and provides service to four rural hospitals.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Barbara Kennedy

Financial Systems Specialist
Financial Systems

How long have you worked here, and what did you do before joining the UNT Health Science Center?

I have been employed at the Health Science Center since 2002. Prior to UNTHCS, I worked at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Describe your typical day at work.

A typical day is providing EIS (PeopleSoft) support to Student Financials and Financial Systems users, testing processing in Learning Solutions and Financial Solutions, and end-user training and documentation.

The Health Science Center's values are compassion, integrity, excellence, pride, innovation and teamwork. Can you give an example of how your department or your coworkers demonstrate one of these values?

I believe the most critical part of teamwork at Financial Systems is that my coworkers direct their efforts toward the same clear goals as the department and Health Science Center as a whole. The success of those efforts comes from good communication and mutual respect.

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

The best part of working at the Health Science Center is the shared sense of community. The congenial interpersonal relationships that have developed are what I treasure the most about working here. Being a part of this extended family is truly a blessing.

What do you like to do when you aren't at the Health Science Center?

When I am not at the HSC, I spend time with my family and friends. My hobbies are sewing, hunting, fishing, long range and skeet/trap shooting.

SAVE THE DATE

June 25

GSBS Dean's Toast to Celebrate Faculty Grants

5 pm

Library Atrium

June 26

Student Clinician Ceremony

5:30 pm

Norris Conference Center

July 10-11

UNTHSC Board of Visitors Meeting

UNT Health Science Center

July 15

[Annual UNTHSC HUB Vendor Fair](#)

11 am – 2 pm

Atrium

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

December 17
President's Open House
EAD 8th Floor

December 24- January 1, 2010
Christmas, Winter and New Year's Holidays

Watch the Daily News and Campus Connection for more information on these events and more.

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.

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