Dean’s Comments: New Initiatives at the School of Medicine

In the spirit of a new academic year underway, this column is aimed at introducing several of the new initiatives being implemented at the School of Medicine.

One of the most significant initiatives has been the transition of the Division of Neurology from a division in the Department of Medicine to an independent department, the Department of Neurology. The need for doctors with specialty training in areas of stroke, seizures, dementia, and neuromuscular conditions is growing, especially in our older population. Neurology will continue to expand its services, education, and research and recruit top quality, world class clinicians, teachers, and researchers in its field. The specialty areas of neurology have a very strong research and clinical base in the School of Medicine. These areas are part of cutting edge research nationwide, and education for the Health Science Center and community. Areas including cerebrovascular disease, epilepsy/sleep, neuromuscular, movement disorders, dementia, and multiple sclerosis are expanding in our clinical service and research arenas.

In June, Dr. Andres Rahal, MD, PhD, became the first graduate of the new resident-PhD program in the Department of Radiology. This program, the first of its kind in the nation when it began seven years ago, is designed to produce physician scientists who can translate new discoveries in biomedical imaging and image-guided interventional tools into useful clinical procedures for improving the diagnosis and treatment of patients. The Department of Radiology has successfully recruited Dr. Rahal to join the full-time faculty in the Department as an Assistant Professor. As a physician scientist with a special interest in musculoskeletal radiology, he will continue his research on improved specificity of MRI diagnosis of collagenous lesions for the evaluation of diabetes, aging and sports injuries. There are currently seven additional Resident-PhD students in the program who will graduate over the next six years.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio’s Clinical Enterprise/Faculty Practice remains very active. It is currently in the process of developing Multidisciplinary Specialty Product Lines that are patient-centric with disease specific programs, service expectations and participant rewards. As they continue to focus on quality patient care and maximized efficiencies, they will use a new electronic medical record system (EPIC) to provide connectivity among all the UT Medicine Clinics. A key provision of the new system will be to provide expeditious feedback to all referring physicians.

Global Health issues continue to dominate the news. In response to the growing issues affecting international travelers, UT Medicine has implemented the new UT Medicine Travel Clinic. This clinic offers programs with expertise in pre-travel counseling and immunizations, country-specific medical and travel advisory information, and advice on travel medical supplies in addition to a complete array of recommended travel vaccinations and post-travel diagnosis and treatment.

A new center has been established within the School of Medicine. It is The Pancreatobiliary Center, under the direction of Dr. Sandeep Patel, offers state-of-the-art evaluation and treatment of all manner of pancreatic and biliary disorders. Clinical evaluation at the Center is supplemented by a variety of advanced imaging and interventional tools. One exciting feature of the Center is its thriving collaboration with the Pediatric GI program, centered at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa, resulting in a rapidly growing Pediatric Pancreas center, offering both diagnosis and invasive therapy to children with pancreatic diseases.

We are a young institution with the passion to excel; we are on course to preeminence and continue to seek the pursuit of scientific truth at our School of Medicine – the clinical bridge from the laboratory to the bedside. We are committed to investing in our future, and we are dedicated to making lives better for South Texas and the world. This is our time; we are on the threshold of an historic and transformational era of growth and achievement for our School and our University.
Welcome New Faculty

Anesthesiology
Dr. Deborah Benitez joined on August 13, 2007 as Instructor. She received her medical degree from UTHSCSA in 2003 and completed an internship in 2004. She completed her anesthesia residency from our program in June 2007.
Ms. Edvira Franco joined on September 1, 2007 as an Anesthesia Specialist. Ms. Franco received her nursing degree from Regis University in 2003. She received a Master's degree in Nurse Anesthesia from Woford College in 2007.
Dr. Brooke Harden joined on September 1, 2007 as a Clinical Instructor. She received her medical degree from UTHSCSA in 2003 and completed a transitional internship from Christus St. Joseph's Hospital in 2004. She completed her anesthesia residency training from our program in June 2007.
Ms. Carolyn Jackson joined on September 1, 2007 as an Anesthesia Specialist. Ms. Jackson received her nursing degree from the Medical College of Georgia in 2006 and she received a Master's degree in Nurse Anesthesia from the Texas Women's University in 2002.
Dr. Andrea King joined on August 21, 2007 as Instructor. Dr. King received her medical degree from UTHSCSA in 2003 and completed an internship in 2004. She will be completing her anesthesia residency from our program in June 2007.

Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Dr. Yufei Xiao joined on September 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. She received her Ph.D. degree from Texas A&M University in 2007. She received her Master of Science degree from the University of Virginia in 2002.
Dr. Kihoon Yoon joined on August 9, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the UTHSCSA in 2007.

Family & Community Medicine
Dr. Maria De Jesus Munoz joined on August 1, 2007 as a Clinical Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston in 2002. She then completed her residency from the UTHSCSA in 2005.

Medicine
Dr. Melissa A. Barnett joined the Division of Hospital Medicine as an Assistant Professor on September 1, 2007. She received her medical degree the University of Wisconsin Medical School in 2003 and then completed her residency training at UTHSCSA in 2007.
Dr. Zakaria I. Hamdan joined on August 1, 2007 as Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology with a joint appointment in Surgery/Transplant Center. He received his medical degree from Ponce School of Medicine in 2002 and completed his residency training from UTHSCSA in 2005.
Dr. Lola Morgan joined on August 1, 2007 as Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University in 2000. She completed her residency from the University of California in 2004 and completed her internship from Maricopa Medical Center in 2001.

Medicine (cont.)
Dr. Carlos Orozco joined the Division of Pulmonary/Critical Care as an Assistant Professor on September 1, 2007. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 1974 and then completed his residency training at Charity Hospital in 1977.
Dr. Tahirro Shin joined on August 1 as Assistant Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology. He received his medical degree from Chiba University, School of Medicine in 1992 and completed his residency training from Gastro-Intestinal Surgery Chiba Cancer Center in 1995.
Dr. Mario Alejandro Tapia-Gomez joined on August 1, 2007 as a Clinical Instructor in the Division of Educational Programs. He received his medical degree from Universidad de Chile in 2000. He then completed his residency training from the UTHSC-RAHC in 2007.

Neurosurgery
Dr. Karin J. M. McCoy joined on August 20, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences in 1989. She then attended University of Florida where she obtained a Master of Science in Clinical Psychology in 1999 and a PhD in Clinical Psychology in 2004. She also, completed a fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Audie Murphy VA Health Care System on August 1, 2007.

OB/GYN
Dr. Tien-cheng Chang joined on September 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his Ph.D. in reproductive technology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2007. He received his Master of Science in 2001 from the same program.

Ophthalmology
Dr. Frank W. Scribbick joined on September 1, 2007 as a Clinical Professor. He received his medical degree from Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in 1987. He then completed his internship training at Tripler Army Medical Center in 1988. He also, completed his residency training in ophthalmology from Brooke Army Medical Center in 1994. He then went Wills Eye Hospital in 1997 to get his fellowship training in Ophthalmic pathology.

Orthopaedics
Dr. Deowall Chattar-Cora joined on September 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his medical degree from New York University School of Medicine in 1996. He completed his fellowship in Hand and Microsurgery from UTHSCSA in 2007.
Dr. Jason M. Evans joined on September 1, 2007 as a Clinical Instructor. Dr. Evans received his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 2002. He completed his residency from Hamot Medical Center in 2007.
Welcome New Faculty (cont.)

Orthopaedics (cont.)
Dr. James C. Latshaw joined on August 1, 2007 as Instructor. He received his medical degree from the Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio. He completed his residency from the Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio in June 2007.
Dr. Krista Kilpadi joined on August 1, 2007 as Instructor. She received her medical degree and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Alabama in 2004. She completed her first year of residency from the UTHSCSA in 2007.

Otolaryngology
Dr. Elizabeth Hueman joined on August 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from Wake Forest University, School of Medicine in 2002. She recently completed her residency from our program.

Pediatrics
Dr. Gulam H. Musharaf joined on August 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his medical degree from Kakatiya Medical College in 1997 and completed his internship at the PDS Children’s Hospital in 2000. He then completed his residency training at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in 2003.

Psychiatry
Dr. Troy A. Moore joined on September 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his pharmacy doctorate from the University of New Mexico in 2003. He then completed his Master of Science in Pharmacy from UT-Austin in 2005.

Radiology
Dr. Ghazwan Kroma joined on September 1, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his medical degree from Damascus University Medical School in 1994. He then completed his residency training in radiology from their program in 1998. He also completed a fellowship in interventional radiology from Louisiana State University Health Science Center in 2006.
Dr. Hima Prabhakar joined on September 17, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 2001 and completed her Diagnostic Radiology residency training from Harvard Medical School in 2006. She has recently completed an Abdominal Imaging and Interventional Radiology fellowship from Harvard Medical School.

Surgery
Ms. Kristin N. Beck joined on September 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. She received her Master’s of Physician Assistant studies from the University of Nebraska in 2002. She received her Master of Public Health from Loma Linda University in 2000.
Dr. Dallas A. Connor joined on September 1, 2007 as a Clinical Assistant Professor. He received his medical degree from the University of California-San Francisco in 2000 and he completed his residency training in Pediatrics from UTHSCSA in 2003.

Surgery (cont.)
Mr. Terry W. Henri joined on September 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Rocky Mountain College School of Allied Health in 2004.
Ms. Alison R. Gilbert joined on September 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. She received her Bachelor of Art degree with a major in Physician Assistant studies from Howard University in 1998 and she received her Master of Public Health from George Washington University.
Dr. Deborah L. Mueller joined on September 1, 2007 as a Clinical Associate Professor. She received her medical degree from Medical University of South Carolina in 1992. She completed her internship and residency from Wilford Hall Medical Center. She then completed a Surgical Critical Care/Trauma fellowship at UT Southwestern Medical Center.
Mr. Edward Owens joined on September 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. He received his Master of Physician Assistant studies from University of Nebraska College of Medicine in 1999 and received his Bachelor of Science from George Washington University in 1999.
Ms. Mary Salazar joined on September 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Towson State University in 1990. She then completed her Master of Science in Management Systems from John Hopkins University in 1994.
Dr. Samer Sbayi joined on August 15, 2007 as an Assistant Instructor. He received his medical degree from Universidad Tecnologica de Santiago in the Dominican Republic in 1998 and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Toxicology with a subspecialty of Pharmacology, at the University of Toronto in 1994. He then completed a General Surgery residency at Seton Hall University, St. Francis Medical Center in 2007.
Dr. Carmela Teeter joined on September 17, 2007 as a Clinical Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1996. She completed her internship from the University of Arizona, followed by her Orthopaedic Surgery residency at Case Western Reserve University. She completed a Sports Medicine fellowship from the University of Texas at Houston in 2003.
Ms. Jeni Wilson joined on August 1, 2007 as a Faculty Associate. She received her Bachelor of Science in Education at Western Illinois University in 1975. She then attended The University Illinois at Chicago, Peoria Campus and earned her Master’s of Science in Nursing in 1991.

Urology
Dr. Sunil Sudarshan joined on August 13, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. He received his medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine in 1999 and earned his A.B. in Chemistry at Duke University in 1995. He completed his General Surgery internship and Urology residency at Medical University of South Carolina from July 1999 – June 2005. He then completed his Clinical Fellowship and Research in Urologic Oncology at National Cancer Institute in June 2007.
update - residents’ duty hours and fatigue

It has been some time since we discussed the issue of residents’ duty hours, and the more important issue of resident fatigue. The ACGME requires that programs limit residents’ duty hours and protect their time away from clinical endeavors. The limits, set 4 years ago, include:

- 80 hours per week*
- 1 day in 7 free from all educational and clinical responsibilities*
- 10-hour time period between all daily duty periods and after in-house call
- In-house call no more frequently than every third night*
- Continuous on-site duty, including in-house call, must not exceed 24 consecutive hours. Residents and fellows may remain on duty for up to 6 additional hours to participate in didactic activities, transfer care of patients, conduct outpatient clinics and maintain continuity of medical and surgical care
- No new patients may be accepted after 24 hours of continuous duty
- At-home call must not be so frequent as to preclude rest and reasonable personal time
- Residents and fellows taking at-home call must be provided with 1 day in 7 completely free from all educational and clinical responsibilities*
- When residents and fellows are called into the hospital from home, the hours they spend in-house are counted toward the 80-hour limit
- Internal moonlighting must be considered part of the 80-hour weekly limit on duty hours

* averaged over a 4-week period

Duty hours
Our institution routinely performs a campus-wide resident duty hour survey twice yearly, in November and May. Data from the May 2007 yielded the following results:

Out of 526 residents who responded (77% response rate), 83 residents in 15 programs reported at least occasional violations. Most of these responses came from first and second-year General Surgery residents.

Overall, no single statement had more than 36 respondents suggesting occasional violations, and no statement had more than 4 respondents suggesting frequent violations.

The standard that was most frequently violated was, “No new patients may be accepted after 24 hours of continuous duty.”

The two statements that received the most responses of “RARELY or NEVER met” were, “When residents or fellows are called into the hospital from home, the hours they spend in-house are counted toward the 80-hour limit,” and “No new patients may be accepted after 24 hours of continuous duty.”

(Residents contributed free-text comments as well, and in cases where the specialty program could be identified, Program Directors’ responses will be reviewed by the Duty Hours Subcommittee and the full GME Committee, in order to explore further opportunities for improvement.)
Fatigue and Sleep Deprivation
Fatigue can impair performance, via interaction of the circadian pacemaker and homeostatic drive for sleep. The regulation of wakefulness, alertness and performance are driven by sleep need, sleep inertia, and the circadian system. During periods of “sleep debt” vigilance falls, episodes of microsleep break into wakefulness, and there is an increase in both errors of omission and errors of commission. Learning is impaired. In the past few years much has been learned about sleep deprivation and performance, and this information is essential for us to include in our medical education programs at all levels.

The ACGME now requires that faculty and residents be educated to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation and must adopt and apply policies to prevent and counteract potential negative effects on patient care and learning. The intent of this requirement is to raise faculty and residents’ awareness of the negative effects of sleep deprivation and fatigue on their ability to provide safe and effective patient care, and to provide them with tools for recognizing when they are at risk and strategies to minimize the effects of fatigue (in addition to getting more sleep).

Some facts that may be new to our faculty:
1. Recognizing fatigue in others may be difficult. Recognizing fatigue in ourselves can be even harder – when individuals are fatigued they are notoriously unable to accurately self-assess, particularly as regards their “executive” functioning.
2. “Executive” function deficit can lead to poor cognitive performance, failure to properly assess risk and/or anticipate consequences, lessened interest in outcomes, and/or problems controlling mood and avoiding inappropriate behavior.
3. Clinical situations are often complex and changing, and can require changes in strategy. It can be challenging to sort out performance deficiencies and real or potential patient care lapses.
4. Strategies to combat fatigue, in addition to bright light, upright (standing) posture, and a cool environment, include naps, caffeine, and good sleep habits.

NAPS
- Planned naps can improve subsequent alertness and performance
- Allow up to 45 minutes for sleep (reduces the likelihood of awakening in REM and experience sleep inertia)
- Don’t take a nap too close to a planned sleep period
- Allow a 15 minute wake-up period following a nap

CAFFEINE
- The strategic use of caffeine involves ingestion at times that will promote alertness and performance during periods of vulnerability (3-7 am and 1-4 pm)
- A significant performance and alertness boost can be obtained from 200 mg caffeine

GOOD SLEEP HABITS
- Use a pre-sleep routine to provide cues for relaxation and sleep
- Avoid negative sleep cues in the bed and bedroom
- Have a light snack or drink if hungry or thirsty
- Avoid caffeine intake at least 3 hrs before bed
- Avoid exercise within 2-3 hrs of bedtime
- Follow a 30-min “toss-and-turn” rule such that if you are unable to fall asleep in 30 min, get out of bed, engage in some sleep promoting activity, return to bed when ready
- Use relaxation techniques
- Try to get 8 hrs of sleep in every 24 hr period (consider a supplemental nap)
- Limit intake of ethanol or nicotine-containing products close to bedtime

As more is learned about the need for napping, both prophylactic and for recovery, there are significant implications – changes in educational design, clinical assignments, and even the construction of health care facilities (more single “napping rooms”) – many of which are underway within our programs. For those interested in learning more about this topic, please refer to the sources below. In addition, Jennifer Peel, PhD, GME Director of Education can help programs develop presentations.

For more information:
1. http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/dutyHours/dh_sleepdepbib2.pdf - this includes a bibliography of articles on the effect of sleep loss on performance.
3. LIFE Curriculum (Learning to Address Impairment and Fatigue to Enhance Patient Safety): http://www.lifecurriculum.info/, available free-of-charge. It includes video segments, expert commentaries, discussion questions, suggested role play exercises and resources that may be used for self-study, embedded in classroom sessions or as one or more workshops.

Lois L. Bready, M.D.
Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education
Dr. John C. King, Professor of Rehabilitation Medicine and Director of the Reeves Rehabilitation Center at the University Hospital was recently selected to receive the prestigious 2007 Distinguished Clinician Award from the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. This honor has been awarded to only 75 other physiatrists and Dr. King is the first to receive this award from San Antonio. He will be recognized by his colleagues on September 29, 2007, at the Academy's Annual Assembly in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Amelie Ramirez, Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Center Director of the Institute for Health Promotion and Research, has been named a “2007 Professor of Survivorship” for her outstanding contributions to breast cancer survivorship by Susan G. Komen for the Cure, a worldwide network of breast cancer survivors and activists. Read more in the HSC News

Salud America!, based at the Institute for Health Promotion and Research, received a five-year, $5.2 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

2007 Presidential Awards: Congratulations to Dr. Steven M. Haffner for receiving the Distinguished Scholar Award, Drs. Richard P. Usatine, Abraham Verghese, and Janet F. Williams for receiving the Teaching Excellence Award, Drs. Sandra Jo Ehlers, Boulos Toursarkissian and Pamela M. Otto for receiving the Clinical Excellence Award and to Dustin Williams, MS IV, for receiving the Ambassador Scholar Award.

Congratulations to Dr. Janet Williams for her acceptance into the prestigious 2007-2008 Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program.

Congratulations to Dr. Neal Dalrymple, Vice Chair of Clinical Education & Radiology Residency Program Director, has been named as a semifinalist in the AuntMinnie's Most Effective Educator's list and the HSC has also made the semifinalist list named in the Best Radiologist Training Program category.

Congratulations to Dr. Sandra Sanchez-Reilly, Director of the Palliative Care Program and Assistant Professor in Medicine, for the recent article in the San Antonio Express News. Read more about her and the program

The following faculty, fellows, staff and/or students appeared in the news (television, print media or radio): Dr. Sunil Ahuja, Medicine/Infectious Diseases; George Barrera/Roy Guerra, So. Tx. Injury/Prevention Center; Erica Cuevas/Irma Ortiz, So. Tx. Injury/Prevention Center; Dr. Kenneth Cusi, Medicine/Diabetes; Dr. Patricia Fernandez, Neurosurgery & Radiology; Dr. Sharon Fowler, Clinical Epidemiology; Irene Garza, So. Tx. Injury/Prevention Center; Dr. Francis J. Giles, Medical Oncology; Dr. Nancy Kellogg; Pediatrics; Dr. Robert Marciniak, Medical Oncology; Dr. Claudia Miller, Family/Community Medicine; Helen Rodriguez, So. Tx. Injury/Prevention Center; Dr. Vivek Singh, Psychiatry; Dr. Ian Thompson, Urology; Juana Torres, So. Tx. Injury/Prevention Center; Dr. Leonel Vela, RAHC; Dr. Abraham Verghese, Ctr. for Med Humanities/Ethics; Dr. Christopher Wallace, Psychiatry; Dr. Howard Wang, Plastic Surgery; Dr. Patti Wetzel, Surgery; Dr. Pamela Wood, Pediatrics

Belinda Chapa accepted the position of Director of School of Medicine Admissions & Special Programs. Her official start date was September 1, 2007. She will continue her role in medical admissions with Dr. David Jones, as well as an expanded role in management of special programs including the Joint Admissions Medical Program, the Med Ed Program and the Facilitated Admissions for South Texas Scholars programs. She has over 8 years of admissions experience and is in the process of receiving a Master of Public Administration from UTSA. Please join me in congratulating her.
Family and Community Medicine would like to welcome Debra Carr, GNP who has been working in our department since July 2nd, 2007. She previously worked with the Kellum Medical Group here in San Antonio. She will be working in our various geriatric clinics.

Daniel T. DeArmond, MD, has joined the faculty of the cardiothoracic division of the department of surgery, bringing video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS) and minimally invasive / endoscopic surgical skills to the general thoracic surgery group. Minimally-invasive thoracic surgery is fast becoming the standard of care in many institutions, and Dr. DeArmond's years of training, as well as his surgical skill and talents, will strengthen an already-impressive standard of care for the department.

Dr. DeArmond attended the Medical College of Pennsylvania, earning his MD in 1996. He then completed a general surgery residency here at UTHSCSA, and a cardiothoracic surgery residency at the University of Iowa. He is board certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. He completed an additional year of fellowship training in general thoracic surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA, where he was exposed to a high-volume experience with video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS) and thoracic endoscopy. His clinical specialty is the application of VATS to operations for lung cancer, where the advantage to patients is a complete cancer operation with less pain, shorter hospital stays, and a shorter recovery period. During his surgical training he spent three years in the lab researching the molecular mechanisms of cancer, which has allowed him to publish and present at numerous national meetings. He is interested in developing novel medical devices and drug therapies related to thoracic surgery.

Department of Medicine, Outstanding Accomplishments

The Carter Pannill Professorship
Jacqueline A. Pugh, M.D.
General Medicine

Medtronic Award for Health Care and Medical Science, Awarded by University of Ireland, Galway & Lifescience Award for 2007, Awarded by BioLink USA-Ireland
Francis J. Giles, M.D.
Hematology and Medical Oncology

Infectious Disease Society of America
Student Research Award
Payal K. Patel, MS2
Infectious Diseases

Thomas F. Patterson, M.D.
Infectious Diseases

Emeritus Professor
J. Richard Graybill, M.D.
Infectious Diseases

25 years of UTHSCSA Service Award
Marc Weiner, M.D.
Infectious Diseases

30 years of UTHSCSA Service Award
Andrew K. Diehl, M.D.
General Medicine

Major Grant Awards
VA Career Research Award
Karen L. Block, Ph.D.
Nephrology

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation
Hanna E. Abboud, M.D.
Nephrology

VA Merit Review
Balakuntalam S. Kasinath, M.D.
Nephrology

Samuel A. Lee, M.D.
Infectious Diseases

Medical School Class of 2007 Outstanding Faculty Award: Abraham C. Verghese, M.D., Center of Medical Humanities & Ethics; Kristy Y. Kosub, M.D., Office of Educational Programs

Outstanding Teacher Award 2006-2007: Debra K. Hunt, M.D., Hospital Medicine; Jane O’Rorke, M.D., General Medicine; Patricia I. Wathen, M.D., General Medicine

NIH Grant Awards: Karen L. Block, Ph.D., Nephrology; Inmaculada del Rincon, M.D., Immunology & Rheumatology; Linda A. De Graffenried, Ph.D., Hematology & Medical Oncology; Augustin Escalante, M.D., Immunology & Rheumatology; Gabriel Fernandez, Ph.D., Immunology & Rheumatology; James W. Freeman, Ph.D., Hematology & Medical Oncology; George I. Henderson, Ph.D., Gastroenterology & Nutrition; Balakuntalam S. Kasinath, M.D., Nephrology; Donna Lehman, Ph.D., Clinical Epidemiology; Robert A. Marcinak, M.D., Ph.D., Hematology & Medical Oncology; Nicolas Musi, M.D., Diabetes

http://www.uthscsa.edu/vpaa/faculty/presaward.html
Announcements

DR. WILLIAM HENRICH, DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, INVITES YOU TO A TOWN HALL MEETING
“Building Bridges and Gaining Ground: The Road Ahead for the School of Medicine”

Thursday, September 27th, 2007
5:00 pm to 6:00pm
Reception to Follow
MED 3.102B (near Subway)

VTEL arrangements scheduled for RAHC Harlingen, Edinburg and Laredo. The presentation will also be available at the following link:
http://aisvid.uthscsa.edu/SonicFoundry4/Viewer/?peid=ffcb7a27-4eaf-4603-bff8-7ff739d6650f

Robert J Nolan, Jr., MD, has accepted the position of Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education, effective September 4, 2007.

Dr. Nolan received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1975 and his MD from the University of Florida at Gainesville in 1979. Following completion of his MD, he completed both his Internship and Residency in Pediatrics from the Harriet Lane Service, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD in 1982. Dr. Nolan completed a Clinical Fellowship in General Academic Pediatrics from Duke Hospital, Durham, NC in 1984.

He joined the UTHSCSA in 1984 where he has served in the Department of Pediatrics as an Assistant Professor, Clerkship Director, Residency Program Director, Assistant Professor and Assistant Chairman for Education and Training, Assistant Professor with Tenure and Assistant Chairman for Education and Training, Assistant Professor with Tenure and Deputy Chairman for Education and Training, Associate Professor with Tenure and Deputy Chairman for Education and Training, and Associate Professor with Tenure and Vice Chairman for Education and Training. He most recently has served as Professor with Tenure and Vice Chairman for Education and Training in Pediatrics and as Professor with Tenure and Director of Internal Reviews, Graduate Medical Education Committee.

Dr. Nolan has been listed in Strathmore's Who's Who and the Guide to America's Top Pediatricians; has received numerous Outstanding Faculty, Outstanding Professor and Outstanding Teacher Awards; the Presidential Award for Teaching Excellence and is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Thank you and congratulations to the departments & centers that participated in the SECC School of Medicine Fun Baskets Fundraiser. The event raised $625.00.

As of September 17, the School of Medicine has donated $28,153 and that is only 6.3% participation. You may continue to donate online at http://www.uthscsa.edu/unitedway/secc2007/index.asp. Username is your computer’s login name and password is UTHSCSA9999 (birth date MMDD). We would like to beat our numbers from last year, $151,133 and 36.1%.
FOCAL POINTS: DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDICS

The Department of Orthopaedics is proud to announce the developmental stage of the Texas Limb Preservation Center of Excellence. Co-directors are Dr. Daniel Carlisle, Department Interim Chair, and Dr. Thomas Zgonis. The mission of this center is to provide high quality and comprehensive wound care services, on a consultative basis. To further this mission, multi-specialty consultants to include vascular surgery, orthopaedic/podiatry surgery, plastic surgery, internal medicine, infectious disease, endocrinology, dermatology, physical therapy/rehabilitation, occupational therapy, nursing, nutrition, prosthetics, and social services will be an integral part of the Center. Family practice will continue to serve as a cornerstone of this project. The Center will provide basic and advanced education and advance the art of wound care and limb preservation through basic science and clinical research. One of the many goals is to become the leading Center for advanced wound care and limb preservation attracting patients and health professionals from throughout the world thus establishing itself as a Center of Excellence. Major health institutions and companies are expected to provide continued support for research, publication and teaching. Research grants and corporate sponsorships have already been invested in this developmental stage.

Faculty News
Dr. Amanda Marshall has been recommended for membership on the Graduate Faculty by Dr. David Dean, Chair of the Committee on Graduate Studies (COGS) for Biomedical Engineering. Her research interests are Polyethylene, osteolysis, implant wear, and hip and knee reconstruction. She was formally accepted in July.

Dr. William Koeck, a 2007 residency program graduate, has agreed to join our faculty after he completes a Pediatric Orthopaedic fellowship in 2008.

Dr. Jason Evans, a 2007 residency program graduate will join the department after he completes an Orthopaedic Traumatology fellowship in 2008.

Podiatry
The 3rd Annual International External Fixation Symposium was held in San Antonio August 9-12. Scientific & Organizing Committee were Thomas Zgonis, DPM, FACFAS, Daniel Carlisle, M.D., and Animesh Agarwal, M.D. International faculty from Turkey, Greece, and Germany participated in this symposium. The purpose of the symposium is to review current concepts and techniques in revisional and reconstructive lower extremity surgery.

The 23rd Annual Diabetic Foot Update 2007 will be held December 6-9, 2007 at the Westin Riverwalk Hotel. Registration information is available on the CME website. This program will feature a recognition dinner for Dr. Lawrence Harkless, who founded this annual educational event.

Research
Since the beginning of 2007, Dr. David Dean and Dr. Victor Sylvia have received seven new grants totaling in excess of $600,000. Two projects were related to isolation and visualization of polyethylene wear debris particles and included Dr. Amanda Marshall in the Department of Orthopaedics. A third project with Dr. Thomas Zgonis, Podiatry Division, examines the effect of magnetic stimulation on cartilage repair. The remaining four projects are for the development of new bone graft substitutes and bone tissue engineering scaffolds for repair of large segmental defects in collaboration with Dr. Jeffrey O. Hollinger at Carnegie Mellon University and Drs. Joo L. Ong and C. Mauli Agrawal in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at UTSA.

Daniel W. Carlisle, M.D.
Interim Chairman and
Residency Program Director

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