

IMPACT

Nursing pin ceremony, graduation set

By CARRIE ANN DAVIS

"Pomp and Circumstance" will echo through the Galveston Island Convention Center at Moody Gardens as the School of Nursing class of 2002 celebrates its commencement April 26. This year's baccalaureate and master's program commencement speaker is Dr. Patricia Blair, an associate professor of nursing.

The festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society's induction ceremony in the center's Floral Hall B.

Beginning at 1:30 p.m., the school's pinning ceremony will take place in the center's Exhibit Hall. Patricia Morgan, assistant professor of nursing, is the master of ceremonies for this event, and Karla Levy, clinical assistant professor, will act as the commentator.

Following the pinning ceremony reception, the School of Nursing commencement ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. Dr. Bruce Leonard, assistant professor of nursing and Generic Track class sponsor, will lead the students in carrying the mace. Corinne Oppermann, assistant professor of nursing and Flexible Option Track class sponsor, will lead the students in reciting the Nightingale Pledge.

In addition to the baccalaureate and master's candidates to be honored, the first graduates of the UTMB nursing doctoral program also will be recognized.

These doctoral students will graduate with the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences May 11.

MEDICAL MATCH GAME



Fourth-year medical students congratulate one another on their residency matches while others anxiously await the calling of their names. Each year, students around the country find out at the same time where they will spend the next three to seven years of their lives.

Photo by Jennifer Reynolds-Sanchez

Match Day pairs students with residency programs

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

On the morning of March 21, the seats in the main auditorium of Levin Hall were filled with fourth-year medical students anxiously awaiting word of where they would be spending the next three to seven years of their lives. It was Match Day—the day fourth-year medical students at UTMB and across the country come together, often with friends and family nearby, to receive the results from the National Residency Matching Program telling them where they will receive their graduate medical education.

Each year, on a designated March day, the NRMP allows the results to be released promptly at noon EST to medical students across the United States.

The UTMB tradition of past years has been for students to put a dollar in a large bowl when their names are called to receive the envelope that carries the news of their fate. The money is then given to the person who had to wait the longest to receive the news—the person whose name is called last. This year, however, tradition was slightly modified.

Dr. Lauree Thomas, associate dean for student affairs, announced at the opening of the ceremony that her office had requested that the leadership of the School of Medicine not only attend the event and call out student names but also make a monetary contribution to a second bowl that would go to the second to the last student to be called.

See **MATCH DAY** on page 5

Impact is the semimonthly newsletter of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB). Published by the Office of University Advancement, it is distributed free of charge in support of UTMB's education, patient care and biomedical research objectives.

Vice President for University Advancement
Susan H. Coulter

Executive Director of Public Affairs
Chris Comer

Director of Publications
Mary Havard

Editor
Heidi Lutz

Contributing Editors
Tom Curtis, Carrie Ann Davis, Stephanie Dean, Judie L. Kinonen, Christian Messa, Cathy Nall, Jennifer Reynolds-Sanchez, and Doris White

Art Director
Mark Navarro

Contact us

E-mail: impact.oua@utmb.edu

Phone: Heidi Lutz
Ext. 28710 (editor)
(409) 772-2618 (Public Affairs)

Campus mail route: 0144

U.S. Postal address:
UTMB
Office of University Advancement
301 University Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77555-0144

Submissions

The deadlines for submissions to be considered for the Calendar, People and Briefs sections of *Impact* is **noon, one week prior to publication**. Inclusion of all other articles is determined by the Public Affairs staff. Content is generally scheduled two to four editions in advance. Items submitted for consideration are subject to editing for style and length.

Key factor influencing neuromuscular disease discovered

By JIM KELLY

UTMB researchers have identified a critical element in the molecular process responsible for the neuromuscular disease myasthenia gravis.

The discovery could lead to a possible cure for the muscle-weakening disease and to important insights into other autoimmune disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis, type 1 diabetes, lupus and multiple sclerosis.

Myasthenia gravis, which afflicts about 36,000 Americans, causes a loss of muscle strength, which at worst can make even the smallest movements difficult. It occurs when the immune system mistakenly attacks molecules called acetylcholine receptors that muscle cells use to receive chemical signals from nerves. In an article appearing April 15 in *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, scientists Dr. Premkumar Christadoss, Huan Yang, Elzbieta Goluszko, Teh-Sheng Chan and Mathilde Poussin pinpoint the specific part of the human acetylcholine receptor that evokes the strongest response from the human immune cells initiating such "friendly fire" attacks.

To identify the relevant part of the receptor, the UTMB researchers refined an experimental technique that uses acetylcholine receptors from a sea creature called the Pacific torpedo ray to induce myasthenia gravis in mice genetically modified to produce human immune system molecules.

Instead of employing torpedo ray receptors, they induced the condition with human acetylcholine receptors—the first time this had been done—thus creating a more accurate model of the molecular interactions involved in human myasthenia gravis.

Immune cells from the transgenic mice were then exposed to different tiny segments of the alpha subunit of the human acetylcholine receptor to determine which segments would incite the most powerful reaction.

"We looked at the proliferative response, the T-cell expansion for different specific peptides, amino acid sequences, from the human acetylcholine receptor alpha sub-



Work being down by Dr. Premkumar Christadoss and colleagues here might lead to cure for myasthenia gravis and shine light on other autoimmune diseases such as type 1 diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

unit," Christadoss says. "One peptide gave a dominant response."

That peptide, known as the H-a320-337 sequence, produced similar results when tested against immune cells from groups of mice with different human genes. T-cells from mice with the gene to produce the human leukocyte antigen (HLA) molecule DQ8 and mice with the gene to produce the HLA molecule DR3 (both of which increase susceptibility to myasthenia gravis) both showed a powerful reaction to the peptide, growing and sending out signals to produce acetylcholine receptor-destroying antibodies. The same was true of cells taken from crossbreeds of the DQ8 mice and other mice possessing a gene that made them resistant to myasthenia gravis.

This "promiscuity" of the H-a320-337 peptide suggests that it may be involved in provoking harmful immune responses against acetylcholine receptors in patients with a

wide variety of genetic backgrounds. It also opens up the possibility that the peptide could be the key to a new treatment for myasthenia gravis. In earlier experiments, UTMB researchers have used high-concentration doses of torpedo-ray acetylcholine receptor alpha subunit peptide to overstimulate the specific T-cells directing the autoimmune attack that causes the disease, driving those cells to commit suicide in the process known to scientists as apoptosis.

According to Christadoss, such experiments have been about 50 percent successful in preventing myasthenia gravis in mice, and the newly identified peptide—derived from experiments using a transgenic mouse model that more closely resembles human myasthenia gravis—could be more successful in doing the same job. "What we are planning to do next is give a high dose of this peptide and see whether we can prevent the disease in transgenic mice," Christadoss says. "If we can do that, prevent or even suppress ongoing disease, then this peptide could be used as a vaccine to cure myasthenia gravis."

In addition to the possibility that it might lead to better therapy for a specific disease, Christadoss says that the research has implications for the study of autoimmune diseases as a whole. In many autoimmune disorders, scientists do not yet know the antigen, the entity that provokes the immune response. In some cases, such as those of rheumatoid arthritis and type 1 diabetes, they believe multiple antigens may be involved, complicating matters even further.

"For myasthenia, however, we know the acetylcholine receptor is the antigen, and that one single antigen is important for the development of the disease, the autoimmunity," Christadoss says. "Therefore, it's a good prototype to study the other diseases, a very nice classical model for a lot of autoimmune diseases."

This research was supported by grants from the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the National Institutes of Health (National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke), the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation and the McLaughlin Foundation.

UTMB Fraud and Abuse Hotline

1 (800) 898-7679
Your Guide to honesty!

- To report suspected waste, abuse and fraud.
- All calls are strictly confidential and anonymous.
- Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Identity System

www.utmb.edu/identity_system

- Log on for information to help you understand and properly apply the UTMB Identity System to your promotional materials, including publications, web sites, speciality items and videos.

(409) 772-2618

- Be sure to call Public Affairs if you have any questions, or to arrange for the required institutional review of your promotional materials.

UTMB Suggestion Box

<http://www.utmb.edu/esp/>

- Have a good idea to make UTMB a better place to work, or a better place to be a patient? Log on to the web site and send your suggestion to the people who can make it happen.
- No Web access? Drop your suggestion in the box on campus.



Numbers to know

UTMB employees, retirees among tall-ship *Elissa* volunteer crew

By HEIDI LUTZ

One-hundred twenty five years ago, a square-rigged sailing ship set out from the Alexander Hall & Co. shipyard in Aberdeen, Scotland, for a voyage that would take it across the globe. The iron barque, with a crew of a dozen or so men, hauled cargo from port to port, contributing to the seafaring business of the 19th century.

Today, that same ship has undergone a multi-million dollar restoration by the Galveston Historical Foundation, and with a crew far larger than the original, continues to sail out of the port of Galveston. But cargo is no longer *Elissa's* primary business. Today, more than a century after she first set sail, *Elissa* is a living piece of history kept alive by the dedication and work of about 100 volunteers.

Among those volunteers are a handful of UTMB employees, who, after a full week of work, dedicate their weekends and spare hours to the tall ship.

"It's rewarding," said Judy Glaister, an assistant professor of nursing and first-year *Elissa* volunteer. "I've never done anything like this before."

Glaister was recruited as an *Elissa* volunteer by Dr. Kay Sandor, an associate professor of nursing. Sandor has crewed on the *Elissa* for four years.

For Sandor, working on *Elissa* is about more than just learning to maintain and sail the ship; it is about finding an escape from the daily grind.

"If you're in your head all day, it's nice to work with your hands," she said. "It really does help me stay balanced."

The same is true for Roxanne Delaney, or "Rocky" as she's known to her shipmates. Delaney spends her weeks behind a computer as an assistant registrar. She too enjoys the hands-on work of being on the *Elissa* crew. "It's a totally different world every weekend I'm down there," she said.

Delaney first joined the *Elissa* crew in 1996. And like those volunteers before her, she spent those first days scraping paint and doing other tedious jobs required to maintain a 125-year-old ship in top-rate sailing condition.

Each volunteer member of the crew spends 13 Saturdays in sail training, learning everything there is to know about the workings of the massive ship. They learn the difference between a topsail, the



Among the volunteer crew of the 1877 tall ship *Elissa* are, pictured from left to right, Dr. Kay Sandor, associate professor of nursing; Pat Turk, UTMB retiree; Judy Glaister, assistant professor of nursing; Alex Ybenez, UTMB retiree; and Roxanne Delaney, an assistant registrar. Not pictured is UTMB retiree Phil Turk.

mizzen staysail and a royal, and they memorize the location and use of 185 line pins that run the length of the ship.

On top of those hours spent at the Texas Seaport Museum, the home of the *Elissa*, each volunteer contributes at least 60 hours working on the ship in order to qualify for day sails, the ultimate reward for their long days. Then, when they qualify for day sails, they must help with make-ready, the final steps to prepare the ship for her once-a-year sails.

Last year, the crew of *Elissa* volunteers, which include people who do not complete sail training or participate as crew, logged a combined total of more than 20,000 hours of service.

Glaister, Delaney and Sandor were among those who made the cut for this year's crew and took the ship out for her annual sea trials in March.

When they started sail training in the fall, there were about 120 potential crewmembers. By the end of the class, it had dropped to between 70 and 80, a number that Phil Turk, a crew member and UTMB retiree, calls "phenomenal."

"That many people had to get in 60 hours minimum, plus 13 Saturdays, plus make-ready," he said.



The 1877 tall ship *Elissa*, docked at the Texas Seaport Museum in Galveston, goes out annually for day sails. She is maintained and sailed by a crew of volunteers, including several employees and retirees from UTMB.

Turk began volunteering on *Elissa* when he retired from UTMB in 1998. At the time, he was part of the National Resource Center for Cephalopods in the Marine Biomedical Institute. His wife, Pat Turk, also a UTMB retiree, volunteers as well.

But after all the hours and all the work, the end result is an experience few in the country have.

"You get this incredible reward," Sandor said. "You get to take this beautiful ship out sailing."

Run/Walk planned as fund-raiser for field house

For more than 30 years the Alumni Field House has been the place for employees, students, retirees and guests to get fit and mingle with friends and colleagues. The Field House now needs your help.

The staff is organizing the first Alumni Field House Fund Run/Walk for May 4. Proceeds from the event will be used to offset rising operation costs and equipment upgrades.

The event is open to anyone. The 3.1 mile course winds its way around the campus finishing with a lap on the newly resurfaced outdoor track. A pool-side awards and volunteer appreciation party follows.

Official event T-shirts will be given to the first 300 to enter and all will be eligible for door prizes to be given away at the awards party.

Commemorative awards will be given to overall and age group winners.

Brochures and registration forms are available at the Alumni Field House and the UTMB Bookstore.

For details or to get an application, contact either Leslie Blacketer at (409) 772-1304 or Gerald Cleveland at (409) 772-3689.

Free skin cancer screening available

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

The Department of Dermatology will offer a free skin cancer screening 10 a.m.–1 p.m. May 4 at the Family HealthCare Center, 3828 Ave. N in Galveston. Patients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis, and no appointment is necessary.

The UTMB screening is part of a national effort, coordinated by the American Academy of Dermatology and the American Cancer Society, to educate the public about the benefits of early skin cancer detection.

UTMB dermatologists will screen for cancerous or precancerous growths. Patients who require further attention will be referred to their own physicians for follow-up care. The clinic will provide sunscreen samples, a list of dermatologists who practice in the Galveston/Houston area and literature on how to spot suspicious skin growths.

For information, call the Department of Dermatology at (409) 772-1911 or (409) 772-9353.

UTMB Earth Day celebration turns 10

Recycled hat show, swap shop, plant giveaway among festivities planned

By CATHY C. NALL

UTMB's Earth Day Celebration will be 10 a.m.–2 p.m. April 26 at Moody Medical Library Plaza. This year's Earth Day Celebration marks a milestone for the conservation efforts on campus with the commemoration of the event's 10th anniversary.



The celebration is free and open to the public. Dozens of exhibitors from earth-friendly organizations will be on hand to share valuable recycling tips and techniques.

This year, the plans for lunch are special too. In recognition of the 10th anniversary, and for the conservation efforts of everyone on campus, UTMB invites one and all to the Earth Day Celebration for a free lunch—baked potatoes with all the trimmings.

In addition to the food, fun and earth-friendly festivities, this year's celebration will include a fashion show of UTMB and contract employees and students modeling their recycled creations for the "Hat Walk on the Catwalk." The show begins at 11:45 a.m. The winners of the three grand prizes, including four box seats to the April 30 Astros vs. Expos game, will be announced at noon.

Activities this year include:

- Recycled Hat fashion show
- Office-supply Swap Shop, a wonderful way to diversify recycling at UTMB
- UTMB Day Care Hat Parade

Earth Day Community Support Program

In support of these organizations, please help fill their "wish lists" by bringing the following items to the Earth Day Celebration:

Animal Shelter and Adoption Center of Galveston

- Towels
- Water buckets (2 gallon metal)
- Old or new toilet lid covers
- Pet carriers
- Pet toys/feeding dishes
- Leashes and collars
- Scrub jackets or lab coats

Women's Crisis Center

- First-aid kits
- Toiletries (sample/hotel size)
- Extension cords
- Hand tools (hammer/screwdriver/grip vice)

Galveston County Immunization Coalition "Immunize Against Illiteracy"

- Children's books—new or gently used

UTMB Volunteer Services

- Paperback novels
- Magazines (recent)
- Toiletries (sample/hotel size)
- Audio books

- T-shirts and tote bags with this year's winning design will be on sale for \$7, and reusable mugs will be on sale for \$2.50
- TEXAS Program drawing
- Penta/pepper plant giveaway and loblolly pine and water oak tree giveaway
- Puppet show
- UTMB Caring Clowns

- McGruff the Crime Dog
- BFI's Mobius and Recycle Mama

UTMB's goal for Earth Day is to provide an outreach opportunity that encourages earth-friendly ideas and practices, sustain recycle partnerships, and promotes environmental education to the local community.

In keeping with this goal, each year the UTMB Earth Day committee selects community organizations to receive assistance through its Earth Day Community Support Program. This year, the Animal Shelter and Adoption Center of Galveston, the Women's Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston County and the Galveston County Immunization Coalition "Immunize Against Illiteracy" program have been selected to receive collected donations for their "wish lists."

The Animal Shelter and Adoption Center of Galveston is solely dedicated to the welfare of unwanted or homeless animals. This organization provides a temporary refuge for these animals, arranges placement in responsible homes, and educates the community to prevent cruelty to animals, as well as offers instructions on humane pet care. If you would like to volunteer, contact the shelter at (409) 740-1919 for an application.

The Women's Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston County promotes the safety and well-being of women, children and families and advocates for the prevention of family violence and sexual assault. Call (409) 763-1441 for more information.

The Galveston County Immunization Coalition is accepting new and gently used children's books for its "Immunize Against Illiteracy" campaign to wipe out illiteracy through helping children and parents understand the importance of reading. Books collected are given to children receiving their immunizations. Established in 1993, the coalition's mission is to increase immunization rates for all Galveston County residents. For information, call (409) 747-1297.

Nurses, Hospitals weeks to be celebrated with variety of events on campus

UTMB preparations are beginning for professional growth, networking and celebration events to mark National Nurses Week, May 6-12, and National Hospital and Health Care Week, May 12-18.

The campus celebration will kick off with a cookout in the cafeteria courtyard on May 6. At the cookout, Galveston Mayor Roger "Bo" Quiroga and UTMB President John D. Stobo will issue special proclamations for the two weeks. All employees are invited to attend the cookout and enjoy free hot dogs from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. in John Sealy Cafeteria Courtyard. The rain location is OJ's Café.

Also on May 6, nationally known speaker Christine Cashen will present "Got Fun: Discover ways to put your fun meter on

maximum and your stress meter on minimum!" The presentation will be offered to all campus and clinic nurses from 7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.–1 p.m., and again from 3:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m., in the sixth floor Jennie Sealy Auditorium.

UTMB nurses have submitted essays that exemplify outstanding patient care, nursing practice or an experience that expresses the essence of nursing. Those who submitted essays will be invited to a special May 8 luncheon. The top three essays will receive awards. Also at the luncheon will be the presentation of the Preceptor of the Year Award, and the presentation of the Silent Angel Award, which is given to a UTMB nurse nominated by a patient or someone in the community.

A buffet is planned for the night shift crews on campus from 10 p.m.–midnight May 8 in Room 7.134 of the John Sealy Annex.

On May 9, the Texas Nurses Association will present its Nurse of the Year Award at a special reception at Brothers Petronella restaurant from 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

The celebration of National Nurses Week and National Hospital and Health Care Week will feature an ice cream social from 2 p.m.–6 p.m. May 13 in the cafeteria courtyard. All employees are invited to stop by for an ice cream sundae. Remember to bring your employee ID with you.

Also on May 13, Nursing Professional

Organizations will be sponsoring a booth display from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. in the sixth floor Jennie Sealy Auditorium. Stop by to learn more about the various nursing organizations and their activities. Door prizes and gifts will be available.

Also planned during the two weeks will be a blessing of the hands conducted May 16–17 by Pastoral Care at various locations on campus and in the clinics. And a School of Nursing Joint Venture poster contest will be displayed in the sixth floor Jennie Sealy Auditorium during the two-week celebration.

Watch iUTMB and Daily Announcements for additional details about the two weeks of activities.

LeBlanc receives ACGME's prestigious Gienapp Award

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

Dr. Al LeBlanc, UTMB School of Medicine associate dean emeritus for graduate medical education, has traveled a long and distinguished professional path since he served his residency at UTMB from 1958–1961—and all without relocating from the Galveston community. Since becoming a UTMB faculty member in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1961, he has played a large role in ensuring that not only this university, but universities nationwide, provide a professional and progressive learning and working environment for medical residents.

LeBlanc, a longtime member of the American Medical Association's Advisory Committee on Graduate Medical Education and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, recently received the Gienapp Award, garnering national recognition for his contributions to ensuring high quality graduate medical education.

The award's namesake, John Gienapp, was the first executive director of the ACGME, which was founded in 1981 to set standards of graduate medical education through a national accreditation process. The ACGME comprises a policy setting board, an institutional review committee, a transitional year committee and 27 separate specialty residency review committees designated to survey residency programs.

"In a way, the ACGME is a quality control organization," LeBlanc explained. "The maximum period of time between on-site review surveys a residency program can be



Photo by Jennifer Reynolds-Sanchez

Dr. Al LeBlanc recently received the Gienapp Award from the national Advisory Committee on Graduate Medical Education.

accredited for is five years. So, if you're perfect, the ACGME residency review committee will be back to see you in five years to make sure you're still perfect. We have over 50 residency programs here at UTMB and average about 15 programs every year that have a surveyor who comes from the ACGME and spends a day determining if the program is doing a good job and will maintain its accreditation."

The Gienapp Award was established three years ago to "recognize those who have dedicated themselves to graduate medical education and have made outstanding contributions to the enhancement of residency education and accreditation activities." The first award recipient was Dr. Jordan Cohen, who heads up the Association of American

Medical Colleges. The second recipient was collectively all current and past members of the ACGME residential review committees.

"The award was to be for someone who had done something over a relatively long period of time at the national level related to residency training," LeBlanc said.

In 1977, LeBlanc assumed the positions of medical director of UTMB hospitals and associate dean for graduate medical education in the dean's office of the School of Medicine to bridge the gap between the hospitals and the dean's office regarding graduate medical education. LeBlanc had served as the obstetrics-gynecology residency program director for several years prior to 1977.

LeBlanc became a member of the American Medical Association's Graduate Medical Education Advisory Committee in 1978, coincidentally, the same year that Gienapp became a staff member for the AMA. LeBlanc was later elected chair of that committee in 1982. Gienapp had been recruited from the AMA to organize the newly formed ACGME in 1981, and LeBlanc was elected to the ACGME board in 1984. He has worked with the organization to set standards for graduate medical education ever since.

"Dr. LeBlanc has been very interested in graduate medical education throughout his career," said Dr. Garland Anderson, professor and chairman of Obstetrics and Gynecology. "He has always been a very good teacher and primary care giver."

LeBlanc recently has been involved in the Austin Medical Education Program, a non-profit organization that sponsors graduate medical education programs at Brackenridge Hospital, and also provides clinical educational rotations for medical students, particularly those from UTMB.

"Dr. LeBlanc has assisted AMEP in the development of Brackenridge and Children's Hospitals in Austin as rich educational sites for our students," said Associate Dean for Regional Medical Education Dr. Michael Ainsworth. "He has provided major support for UTMB medical students' preparation for graduate education."

LeBlanc is humble about his work, but he refers to the award as an honor of a lifetime: "I was there a long time involved in various aspects of the organization," he said. "I think that's part of the reason I was given this award. John Gienapp and I began our national involvement at roughly the same time and, obviously, residency training was one of the things both of us enjoyed most in our careers."

"The award will always remind me of how lucky I was to work with so many UTMB residents over the years, the pleasure I gained from working with our residency program directors at UTMB—many of whom were appointed to ACGME residency review committees—and particularly the fact that I was able to help convince Dr. Tom Blackwell to follow me as associate dean for graduate medical education."

MATCH DAY from Page 1

What Thomas did not tell the leaders was that as a foreshadowing of the festivities celebrating graduation, each dean or associate dean would be charged with performing a task, such as leading the audience in a song or a dance.

"Dr. Lemon, you've been assigned a task," Thomas told Dean of Medicine Dr. Stanley Lemon. "Your task is to make sure that you prepare us for the graduation ceremony."

Lemon's task was to lead the cheering audience in a resounding rendition of "The Eyes of Texas," and he jokingly obliged.

The various tasks for the leaders helped to set a party atmosphere for the 170 hard-working medical students who were anxiously waiting to hear their names called. Some students eased their tension by dressing up in wild costumes.

Stewart Anderson dressed for the occasion in a flashy little silver and black cheerleader's jumper with a matching silver wig. After Anderson ripped open his envelope

Match Day by the numbers

Of the 186 seniors in the School of Medicine, 170 students submitted rank order lists to the National Resident Matching Program. The remaining 16 matched through the military, early programs or had other plans as listed below:

- 183 will enter residency training in 2002
- Two will do research
- One remained undecided

Of the 183 students who will enter a residency training program in 2002

- 44 will remain at UTMB
- 114 will remain in Texas

and read that his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation would be at Carney Hospital in Boston, he grinned at his friends and announced, "It could be a lot worse!"

Anderson is also planning an internship in New Zealand and would like to continue

honing his medical skills while traveling the world.

"I'd like to work in humanitarian aid while I'm still young and can leave at a moment's notice," he said.

Jennifer Wren breathed a sigh of relief and hugged her infant daughter, Sabrina, when she read that she would serve her residency in psychology and child psychology here at UTMB. She said that UTMB was her first choice and she was very happy to know she was staying.

Even after most of the names had been called, the cheering crowd remained to see who would receive the pots of money. The original intention was for the contributions from the SOM leadership to be awarded as a consolation prize to the second to the last person called, but because the amount exceeded that of the students' contribution bowl, the two consolation prize winners had to blindly choose one of the two containers as Office of Student Affairs Administrative Associate Valerie Carmichael hid them behind her back.

Lien (Linda) Che was actually the third to the last person called, but because the person whose name was called after hers was not in attendance, she was awarded the students' pot of contributions.

Last to be called was Camille Calderwood. She was so anxious to finally receive her match results she began to make her way back to her seat without the larger pot of money. It did not take long for her to remember she had forgotten something. As she jogged back to receive her money, she laughed and waved at the gathering of applauding medical students.

As the ceremony came to an end, some students shook hands with faculty members while others rushed to the nearest phone to deliver their good news to family and friends.

"Medical school is very challenging," said a smiling Thomas as she watched excited students file out of the auditorium. "We all like to join in the fun. It's very enjoyable, and it's very touching that you can have an impact in a student's life and help them."

AROUND CAMPUS

PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS

Nursing alumni return for homecoming

During the School of Nursing Homecoming weekend, the school's Alumni Association honored the recipients of this year's Hall of Fame winners during a reception at Moody Gardens. Pictured sitting left to right are Jane E. Reinhart Gonzalez and Dr. Sandra K. Oliver. Standing left to right are Linda F. Herndon, Dr. Katherine J. Moore, Isabel H. Walsh, Marcia G. Hanks, Martha L. LaFoy and Christian Rios Frias.

Photo by Carrie Ann Davis



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

The Chloe Floyd Lecture during the March 22 School of Nursing Homecoming festivities included panel presentations on the current research interests and scholarly pursuits of nursing faculty including the midwifery program, distance education, the Empower Galveston Youth Program and a student perspective on the School of Nursing. Front center: Chloe Floyd. Second row left to right: Dr. Robin D. Froman, professor and associate dean for research and director of the Office for Nursing Research and Scholarship; Christell O. Bray, associate professor of nursing; and Nicola J. Harchut, nursing student. Back row: School of Nursing Dean Dr. Pamela G. Watson, and assistant professors Kathleen Nash and Dr. Barbara Camune.



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

The School of Nursing Homecoming this year featured the anniversary class of 1952. Seated left to right: Eleanor Edgar and Wanda Hugger, Standing left to right: Martha Montgomery, Mary Shelton and Nancy Womack.



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

Hall of Fame recipient, Marcia Hanks (center) with her co-workers responsible for her nomination (from left to right) Alumni Association Vice President Anthe Caruso, Cathy Hartmann, Linda Jackson and Karen Garcia.

IN BRIEF

Richardson to be speaker at first Osler Club meeting

The Osler Scholars are beginning a UTMB Osler Club on campus to continue the discussion of the application of Oslerian principles in contemporary medicine and medical education. Dr. C. Joan Richardson, an inaugural Osler Scholar, will discuss why she became an Oslerian.

The meeting, coordinated through the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine, is open to anyone interested in the principles and teachings of Sir William Osler. It will be 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. April 30 in the dining room of the Rosenberg House. A light buffet supper will be served.

Admission is free, but space is limited. For reservations, call Gwen Jessel at (409) 772-9327 or send email to ljessel@utmb.edu.

Books wanted for 'Immunize Against Illiteracy' campaign

The Galveston County Immunization Coalition, UTMB Office of Community Outreach, The Rotary Club of Galveston and Rosenberg Library are in need of children's books for their project "Immunize Against Illiteracy."

Please donate gently used, or new books for children of all ages. Books will be distributed during free immunization clinics throughout Galveston County. The project is ongoing.

Books can be dropped off at the following locations during regular business hours:

- UTMB WCR Receptionist Desk—Lipton building, first floor, 1902 Harborside Drive
- Office of Community Outreach—UTMB Administration Building, Room 5.102
- Galveston Island Community Center—4700 Broadway (box in the clinic)

Books also can be dropped off at UTMB's Earth Day celebration from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. April 26 on the Moody Medical Library Plaza.

UTMB is one of the hundreds of partners of the Galveston County Immunization Coalition. For information, contact Vicki Elliot at velliott@utmb.edu.

Structural Biology Symposium planned for May

The seventh annual Structural Biology Symposium will be May 17–19 in the Levin Hall Main Auditorium.

The symposium will provide a venue for the joint activities of the recently formed Gulf Coast Consortia representing Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Houston, the University of Texas Health Science Center–Houston and the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, as well as the Keck Center for Computational Biology.

The program will feature a group of

See **BRIEFS** on page 7

AROUND CAMPUS

PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS

UTMB participates in Kids Festival

UTMB's Dr. Lawrence Stanberry and his wife, Elizabeth, again served as honorary co-chairs of the Grand 1894 Opera House Kids Festival on April 6. The Stanberrys were honorary co-chairs of last year's event as well. UTMB President John D. Stobo and his wife, Mary Ann, were the honorary "Grand" parents for the event.

In addition to participation by the Stanberrys and Stobos, UTMB had a strong presence at the family-centered festival. The UTMB Healthy Fun tent was full of activities and health information for guests to the festival.

Dr. Dolphin and the Galveston County Immunization Coalition's Owl made special appearances throughout the day, stopping to visit with children or even pose for a picture.

Perry Medix & the Sirens Musical Puppet Show, presented by the McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science, also joined the many UTMB departments under the Healthy Fun tent.

Here is a quick look at the departments that participated in the festival:

- Children's Asthma Program conducted asthma screenings
- Psychiatry featured a color-your-own bookmark activity
- Child Life and School Services helped kids make macaroni necklaces
- Pediatric Ophthalmology offered free vision screenings
- Southeast Texas Lions Eye Bank offered coloring books to the kids
- Caring Clowns Troupe made balloon animals for kids and entertained crowds
- ECI Launch helped kids make ribbon dancers and distributed developmental literature
- UTMB Police Department offered fingerprinting for children and information on bicycle safety
- Stark Diabetes Center offered free blood glucose screenings for adults
- Pediatric Diabetes had "I'm a healthy kid" buttons for children to decorate
- Rehabilitation Services had quick cards kids could make with their thumbprints
- Educational Cancer Center had word-find games and coloring pages



Above, Regina Burdett, a child life specialist in the Child Life Program at UTMB, helps a child at the Grand Kids Festival make a necklace from colored pasta. The Pediatric Child Life Program was one of more than a dozen UTMB departments and programs that participated in the annual kids festival. The participating departments distributed educational material to adults and offered fun and health activities for the children.

To the left, Dr. Lawrence Stanberry, the John Sealy Distinguished Chair and Professor, chairman and professor of Pediatrics and director of the Sealy Center for Vaccine Development, along with his wife, Elizabeth, take time to visit with UTMB's Dr. Dolphin at the festival. The Stanberrys were the honorary co-chairs of the event. UTMB President John D. Stobo and his wife, Mary Ann, served as honorary "Grand" parents for the event.

Photos by Heidi Lutz

- OB-GYN Women's HealthCare Group had a health drawing activity and basketball hoops set up
- Social Work applied temporary tattoos to kids who wanted them
- Office of Community Outreach provided education material to parents

Created as an extension to The Grand's children's programming and designed to raise an appreciation and awareness of the importance of fine arts for children, the festival features three major performance stages, and more than 50 booths offering "hands on" activities for children and children-oriented arts and crafts. UTMB has participated for the past several years.

Student/Alumni golf tournament



The fifth annual Homecoming Student/Alumni Golf Tournament brought out nine foursomes and one threesome for a fine day on the links. Taking first place was the team of J.R. Tindel, Drew Sawyer, James Copeland and Aristides Koutrouvelis, pictured above from left to right. Second place went to Steven Brown, Chris Galloway Raj Shah and Philip Korenmen. Taking third place was Mark Madsen, Bob Owen, James Hamburger and Richard Price.

BRIEFS from Page 6

distinguished experts in the field of computational structural biology. A poster session and several social events also are planned as part of the symposium.

For information about the symposium, or for a registration form, visit the web site at www.scsb.utmb.edu/symposium/. Email questions to thea@nmr.utmb.edu.

Eliminate waste by reprocessing certain medical devices

Many patient care items labeled as "single use-disposable" can actually be used again. UTMB has contracted with FDA approved companies to reprocess certain medical devices. Healthcare Epidemiology approves the devices included in this program.

Reprocessing single use items decreases the amount of waste UTMB generates, lessening landfill pressures. Maximizing the life of a medical device also can reduce costs.

The following items can be reprocessed: pulse oximeter probes; blood pressure cuffs; sequential compression devices;

See BRIEFS on page 8

BRIEFS from Page 7

electrophysiology catheters; bits, burrs and blades; and several other OR devices. Additional information can be obtained through the UTMB Value Analysis Program.

Volunteers needed for UTMB Beach Clean Up team

The 2002 Texas Beach Clean Up is scheduled for 9 a.m.–11 a.m. April 27 at the west end of the seawall, where Seawall Boulevard becomes FM 3005. Drinks and lunch will be provided, along with a T-shirt or tote bag for all volunteers. To volunteer for UTMB's Beach Clean-Up team or for information, call Gayle Cantrell at (409) 772-5234.

Workforce Compensation and Reporting to change name

In May, the department of Workforce Compensation and Reporting (WCR) will change its name to Finance-Payroll Services. Several years ago the functional areas of payroll, time and attendance, benefits, employee records, and International Office consolidated under the WCR umbrella to gain efficiencies and better serve UTMB departments and employee customers.

The name change is intended to make it easier to know which processes fall under Payroll Services, and which areas to contact for help. Finance-Payroll Services still comprises benefits, employee records, Office of International

Affairs, and payroll.

OF NOTE

Dr. Li Fang, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery's neurosurgery division, recently was awarded a travel grant from International Brain Research Organization (IBRO), headquartered in Paris. The organization promotes excellence in research and teaching in the neuroscience field worldwide. IBRO offers travel grants for young investigators to participate at international neuroscience meetings. Through this program, IBRO will support Fang to attend the 10th World Congress of Pain in San Diego this August. Fang, who collaborated with **Dr. William D. Willis**, the Cecil H. and Ida Green Distinguished Chair, professor and chairman of Anatomy and Neuroscience, and director of the Marine Biomedical Institute, will present his research result on the new finding of the glutamate receptors related signal transduction pathway in central nociceptive transmission.

UTMB internal medicine residents **Anne Buchanan**, **Jennifer Cox James**, **Rajiv Gupta** and **Sreedhar Mandayam** earned national recognition for their medical knowledge and skillful teamwork by claiming victory over 13 other U.S. regional teams during the Jeopardy-style competition "Doctor's Dilemma" at the ACP-ASIM annual meeting in Philadelphia in April. Watch the May 6 issue of *Impact* for a story about these skilled residents.



In a brief ceremony during Homecoming, UTMB President John D. Stobo dedicated a new friendship bench under a tree near the Libby Moody Thompson Basic Science Building. The bench honors the friendship of Dr. Carolyn Oliver-Annunziato and Dr. Katherine Earle Delmer Gill, who graduated in 1977 from UTMB's School of Medicine. With their family members and former classmates present, Stobo thanked Oliver-Annunziato, the Annunziato family and its foundation for their contribution to the Blocker Scholars Initiative in memory of Gill, who died in 1997. On hand for the ceremony, seated from left, are Gill's daughter, Erin Gill; grand daughter, Madison Delmer; and son, Troy Delmer holding his son, Jackson. Standing, from left, are Brett Annunziato, Dr. Carolyn Oliver-Annunziato, Tony Annunziato, Blake Annunziato, Stobo, Norine Gill, David Gill, Bonnie Cummings, Ted Cummings and Patrick Annunziato.

UTMB IMPACT

The University of Texas Medical Branch
Office of University Advancement
301 University Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77555-0144
Telephone (409) 772-2618

April 22, 2002



*Please remember
to recycle your past
issues of Impact.*

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Galveston, TX 77555
Permit No. 5

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

If you're an employee and would like to make an address correction, please contact your department administrator. He or she is the only person authorized to make changes to the main employee database (our source for employee labels) on your behalf.

If you receive *Impact* off campus and would like to make an address correction or let us know that you receive a duplicate copy of the newsletter, please send your request in writing to the *Impact* editor with a phone number where you can be reached.

Here for the health of Texas.