

# IMPACT

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September 9, 2002 — Volume 26, Number 15

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## Empowering Youth

Nursing faculty development program to help raise confident children  
Associate professor of nursing and nursing Ph.D. student Christell Bray, along with Kathleen Nash, a fellow Ph.D. student and assistant professor of nursing, developed Empower Galveston's Youth Program, which provides peer education and support to Galveston's Central Middle School, Austin Middle School and Galveston Catholic School.

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### Emergency Department reorganizes leadership

UTMB is taking steps to reorganize and strengthen the lines of leadership in the department to enhance the environment in which we provide expert care for our patients.

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### White Coat Ceremony welcomes new medical students

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### GSBS welcomes new students at Community of Scholars ceremony

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences inducted a new "Community of Scholars" to its ranks Aug. 19. Welcoming the students to UTMB were GSBS Dean Cary W. Cooper, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology Golda Anne Leonard, a panel of current GSBS students, and Graduate Student Organization President Kendra Stisser.

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### Shell Oil Company Foundation helps fund occupational medicine program

The Shell Oil Company Foundation recently pledged \$100,000 to support a residency program in occupational medicine, the medical specialty that addresses health care issues in the workplace.

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### Examples sought for annual professionalism brochure

One of the ways we demonstrate our commitment to professionalism is by highlighting in our annual professionalism brochure a few of the countless individuals here at UTMB who routinely go the extra mile when it comes to those we serve and who serve as role models for us all.

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### Expert on aging appointed to Physical Therapy chair

Dr. Elizabeth Protas, a nationally renowned expert in exercise and aging, has accepted the position of chairwoman for UTMB's Department of Physical Therapy.

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# IMPACT

## Emergency Department reorganizes leadership

By CARRIE ANN DAVIS

You might have heard about recent changes in the Emergency Department's leadership, which come at a time when emergency departments across the country are experiencing an increase in the number of patients seeking care. Our Emergency Department is no exception. As a result, UTMB is taking steps to reorganize and strengthen the lines of leadership in the department so we can enhance the environment in which we provide expert care for our patients.

"The decision to make a change was based on having looked at what is happening in the environment and realizing we need resources there that are 100 percent dedicated to Emergency Department operations," said Dr. Karen Sexton, chief operating officer for UTMB hospitals and clinics. "By doing so, we will be able to resolve the issues that stand in the way of our providing the best and most efficient care to our patients."

Beginning in 1995, three co-medical directors—Drs. Thomas Blackwell, Susan Keeney and William Mileski—managed the Emergency Department and made outstanding contributions there, while also holding additional responsibilities elsewhere at UTMB. In January of 2000, Dr. Paul English stepped in for Keeney to continue the tradition of exceptional patient care. Now, in

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## EMPOWERING YOUTH

*Nursing faculty develop program to help raise confident children*

By CARRIE ANN DAVIS

*"I realize now I can't change the things that happen in my life, but I can change how I deal with them. I am in control of how I react."*

These are not the words of a mature, self-confident adult; rather this is the wisdom of a 13-year-old participant in UTMB's Empower Galveston's Youth Program.

Empower Galveston's Youth is a peer education and support program developed by Christell Bray, associate professor and nursing Ph.D. student in the School of Nursing, and Kathleen Nash, assistant professor of nursing and nursing Ph.D. student. The program began last autumn at Galveston's Central Middle School using funding from a UTMB President's Cabinet Award. It was expanded last spring to include Galveston Catholic School and Austin Middle School.

Empower is based on the Mind, Body, Spirit Program, created by Denise Rodgers, executive director of the Association for Development of Mind/Body Potential, in Tulsa, Okla. Rodgers developed the program in 1994 and it has been used by cancer patients and multiple sclerosis patients, as well as by healthy individuals seeking ways to ease the stressors in their lives.

Dr. Carolyn Kinney, associate professor of nursing, began working with Rodgers in 1997 and through a grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation began a Mind, Body, Spirit Program for breast cancer survivors in Galveston County. Kinney's students at the nursing school, intrigued by Kinney's discussions about the program, requested the course as an elective for the nursing graduate program. The program has



Photo by Judie L. Kinonen

From left to right, Christell Bray, associate professor of nursing and nursing Ph.D. student, Kathleen Nash, assistant nursing professor and nursing Ph.D. student, and Dr. Carolyn Kinney, associate professor of nursing, collaborated to create UTMB's Empower Galveston's Youth Program. Kinney's Mind, Body, Spirit Program was the inspiration for the new peer education and support program.

also been presented to nursing faculty and is currently offered to hospital nurses here.

Now, the principles of the program are being applied to the trials of adolescence, through Empower Galveston's Youth. Both Bray and Nash have been involved in peer support groups during their nursing careers and saw a need in the community for a youth training program such as Empower.

"Many of the problems I saw in the Teen Health Center were related to adolescents making poor choices and engaging in risk-taking behaviors," Nash said. When she and Bray participated in the Mind, Body, Spirit Program as graduate students, they immediately saw a potential application

with adolescents. "I realized then that today's adolescents are often at a loss when presented with challenges and lack the skills they need to help them to make better choices," Nash said.

The nine-week Empower program includes information and experiential exercises related to the mind-body connection, self-awareness and empowerment. Specific activities include exercises for engaging the right and left-brain simultaneously for learning; exercises to increase concentration, focusing and memory skills; and practice with guided imagery, meditation,

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### 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.

## WHITE COAT CEREMONY

# Tradition welcomes new medical students

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

Flashing cameras and welcoming applause greeted UTMB School of Medicine's newest students as they filed into the main auditorium of Levin Hall on the afternoon of Aug. 19 at the sixth annual Honors and Awards and White Coat Ceremony. The student Honor Education Council organized this ceremony in collaboration with the UTMB Office of Student Affairs, and with the support of the school's Alumni Association.

"This is a time when we pause to recognize the accomplishments of our current medical students and welcome our new medical students," said Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions Dr. Lauree Thomas. "We will embrace you in love, in support and in nurturing for the next four years."

After warm welcomes from Thomas, School of Medicine Dean Dr. Stanley M. Lemon and School of Medicine Alumni Association President Dr. Ronald M. Rust, several awards were presented to second-, third- and fourth-year students who had demonstrated academic excellence.

UTMB Osler Scholar Dr. Alice Anne O'Donell then addressed the audience with a speech entitled "White Coat: Responsibility vs. Privilege."

"Personal accomplishments earned you a place in this ceremony," she said to the medical students. She went on to ask the question of whether the white coat—regarded as a symbol of medical responsibility and compassion—is given or earned.

O'Donell cited examples of unpredictable medical and emotional difficulties doctors often face while working with patients to explain why the white coat given at the ceremony ultimately becomes an earned honor.

"As students, you'll be expected to demonstrate respectful relationships with patients, faculty and peers," she explained.

"Humanism should be at the core of your curriculum."



Photo by Jennifer Reynolds-Sanchez

First-year School of Medicine students stood together and recited a Declaration of Commitment—vowing commitment to the service of humanity as well as respect and gratitude toward their medical teachers and their peers—after donning their white coats at the sixth annual UTMB Honors and Awards and White Coat Ceremony.

With O'Donell's words fresh in their minds, the first-year medical students were cloaked in their symbolic white coats, and each received a pin bearing a laurel leaf and the facade of Old Red, which housed the entire medical school when it opened in 1891.

After donning their white coats, the students stood together and recited the Declaration of Commitment, vowing commitment to the service of humanity as well as respect and gratitude toward medical teachers and their peers.

The grand finale of the ceremony was a performance of the gospel song—a favorite of Dr. Martin Luther King—"If I Can Help Somebody," by the a capella group Syncope, featuring medical students Andy Chen, Matthew Dasco, Will Hooks, Thomas Kirk,

Steve Rath and Stephen Rosales. The song was selected because it exemplifies the central core and essence of profession of medicine—being called to serve.

*If I can help somebody  
As I travel along  
If I can help somebody  
With a word or song  
If I can help somebody  
From doing wrong  
My living shall not be in vain*

"It's pretty easy to put on a white coat, but much more difficult to live up to the responsibilities it signifies" Lemon said after the musical illustration of the compassion that's expected from medical students. "We in the School of Medicine have the utmost confidence in all 200 of you. Don't hesitate to ask for help when you need to."



**Numbers to know**

### 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.

### UTMB Logo Guidelines

[www.utmb.edu/identity\\_system](http://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.

# Shell foundation helps to fund occupational medicine program

By CHRISTIAN MESSA

The Shell Oil Company Foundation recently pledged \$100,000 to support a residency program in occupational medicine, the medical specialty that addresses health care issues in the workplace.

Occupational medicine specialists focus on injury and illness prevention by examining potential health hazards in the work environment—from toxic agents to poorly designed workstations that can cause chronic disabilities. These specialists can be involved in such varied tasks as immunizing workers against possible infections, preparing disaster management plans, and helping to rehabilitate drug- and alcohol-dependent employees. Key to this specialty is the assessment and implementation of safety requirements in the workplace.

The Shell Oil Company Foundation commitment will provide a training stipend for one resident in UTMB's two-year Occupational Medicine Residency Program (OMRP). Of those participating in the program, half are practicing physicians while the other half are doctors-in-training from other residency programs.

The United States has a significant shortage of experts in workplace health. A study by the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine indicates the country needs about 5,500 more occupational medicine specialists to address immediate health concerns and promote workplace safety.

Failure to address work-related health care issues can cost billions of dollars. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that nearly 6 million work-related injuries and illnesses occurred in 1999, almost half of which resulted in lost work time. Musculoskeletal injuries, the most common on-the-job injury, afflict about 1 million employees annually and claim between \$45 billion and \$54 billion in lost wages, compensation and reduced productivity.

Dr. A. Nelson Avery, OMRP director, said the Shell Oil Company Foundation's partnership with UTMB underscores the valuable role that occupational medicine plays in maintaining employee well-being.

"This generous Shell Foundation gift will allow us to further our efforts to have a world-class training program in occupational and environmental medicine," Avery said. "Starting two years ago with our new residency program, Shell generously allowed our residents to rotate at their headquarters in Houston and interact with their physicians. This rotation has already proven to be quite effective."

UTMB is the first U.S. university to provide all three accredited residencies in occupational medicine, general preventive medicine and aerospace medicine on one campus. General preventive medicine training programs focus on health care for a wide variety of populations, including the elderly and ethnic groups.

The aerospace medicine program at UTMB allows residents to work with NASA Johnson Space Center personnel, caring for flight crewmembers exposed to high performance and altitude conditions.

The Shell Oil Company Foundation is dedicated to advancing the communities in which Shell employees live and work. In 2001, the foundation awarded roughly \$27 million to organizations across the country, focusing on such areas as education, culture and the arts, civic and public policy, the environment, community involvement and health and human services.

A pioneer in oil and gas exploration and production technology, Shell Oil Co. is one of the United States' leading oil and natural gas producers, petrochemical manufacturers and gasoline and natural gas marketers. It is an affiliate of the global Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies.

## Watts to speak at Sept. 16 UAA meeting

As the guest speaker for the upcoming meeting of the University Area Association, Dr. Douglas M. Watts, professor of pathology and associate director for scientific administration for the UTMB Center for Biodefense, will discuss UTMB's role in the fight against bioterrorism.

The meeting is 5:30 p.m. Sept. 16 at the William Temple Episcopal Center, 427 Market St. It is open to the public.

UTMB is working to help meet an urgent national need to study more efficient methods for combating disease, including new drugs and vaccines, as well as systems that can quickly detect infection.

Such research will ultimately help the United States to respond quickly and effectively to potential biological attacks similar to the anthrax cases that followed Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

## COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

New students in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences read the Graduate Student Code of Conduct as part of the Community of Scholars welcoming ceremony on Aug. 19.

# GSBS welcomes new students at ceremony

By CARRIE ANN DAVIS

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences inducted a new "Community of Scholars" to its ranks Aug. 19. Welcoming the students to UTMB were GSBS Dean Cary W. Cooper, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology Golda Anne Leonard, a panel of current GSBS students, and Graduate Student Organization President Kendra Stisser.

Leonard, keynote speaker for the event, encouraged the students to cultivate their interest in research and explained to them that embarking on a graduate program will bring them into "a world of many questions and very few certain answers."

In addition, the new students received good-natured advice from fellow students. Krystyn Bourne, second-year graduate student, forewarned the inductees about the numerous acronyms used in the GSBS and at UTMB.

After the presentations, the students received Community of Scholars pins and



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

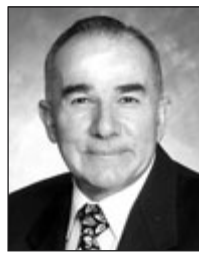
Diana Cittelly, new GSBS student, receiving her Community of Scholars pin and portfolio from Dean Cooper. Cittelly plans to study immunology while at UTMB.

portfolios from Cooper and then recited the Graduate Student Code of Conduct, which was led by Stisser.

# Examples sought for annual professionalism brochure

On August 19, I had the pleasure of speaking at the orientation for students from each of our four schools. There were approximately 800 bright-eyed, enthusiastic future physicians, nurses, allied health professionals and biomedical scientists in the audience. I talked about the history of UTMB—what we're all about, what we stand for. And then I moved onto one of my favorite subjects—professionalism and what it means for these students to now be part of a profession unlike any other that is accountable to society. I emphasized that at UTMB, professionalism is an expectation among all our faculty, staff and students.

For this reason, I was extremely pleased to participate in the start of a new tradition.



Dr. John D. Stobo

Some time ago, I met with student leadership from all four schools to discuss how we could make a statement to prospective and incoming students about what we expect in the way of professionalism from all students at UTMB. Their

idea was for students to take an honor pledge at orientation and to include this honor pledge in materials we distribute to prospective students. Their pledge is simple and straightforward.

On my honor, as a member of the UTMB community, I pledge to act with integrity,

honesty and respect in all my academic and professional endeavors.

The fact that the students themselves helped create this pledge is a sign of their commitment to professional behavior and should make us all proud to have them as part of the UTMB family.

One of the other ways we demonstrate our commitment to professionalism is by highlighting in our annual professionalism brochure a few of the countless individuals here at UTMB who routinely go the extra mile when it comes to those we serve and who serve as role models for us all.

If you know of a UTMB employee, a student, or a group of employees or students who exemplify professionalism, we'd like

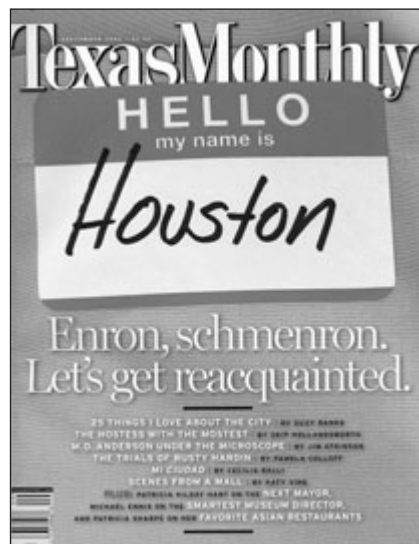
to know about them. As in previous years, we're looking for individuals or teams who have looked beyond their own needs and, through their actions, have demonstrated:

*Commitment* to personal responsibility

*Adherence* to ethical principles

*Sensitivity* to serving diverse populations

To nominate an individual for the next professionalism brochure, please send a note to Andrea Strahan at [anstraha@utmb.edu](mailto:anstraha@utmb.edu) by Sept. 30. Your submission should include: the name(s) of the person/team you would like to nominate, a few sentences on why you believe they are models of professionalism and how we can reach you if we need further information.



## New print ad campaign unveiled in *Texas Monthly*

UTMB's new print ad campaign made its debut recently on page 185 of the September 2002 issue of *Texas Monthly*.

The ad, the first in a series of three that represent the dedication of UTMB employees, spotlights the story of medical/surgical nurse Ruby MacDonald, who became a UTMB legend when she swam to work through flood waters during 1998's Tropical Storm Frances. The ad directs people back to a special UTMB web page for more information.

To see it, pick up the September issue of *Texas Monthly* or watch for the ad on the back cover of UTMB's 2003 phone directory.

## Expert on aging appointed to Physical Therapy chair

By JUDIE L. KINONEN

Dr. Elizabeth Protas, a nationally renowned expert in exercise and aging, has accepted the position of chairwoman for UTMB's Department of Physical Therapy. Dr. Charles Christiansen, dean of UTMB's School of Allied Health Sciences (SAHS), recently announced the selection, and Protas will assume her new role in December.

In addition to her responsibilities in the Department of Physical Therapy, Protas will be a senior fellow in UTMB's Sealy Center on Aging and a senior scientist in the Center for Rehabilitation Sciences.

"We are pleased that Dr. Protas will be joining the university and the leadership in the School of Allied Health Sciences," said



Dr. Elizabeth Protas

Dr. John D. Stobo, UTMB president. "The campus is fortunate to be gaining a scientist, scholar and academic leader of Dr. Protas' stature."

Protas is currently associate dean of the School of Physical Therapy at Texas

Woman's University, Houston Center. Her research and clinical interests include the rehabilitation of the elderly, and she has published research studying how those with chronic disabilities, particularly stroke victims and those with Parkinson's disease, respond to exercise.

Protas' research has received grant funding

from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Institutes of Health, the Foundation for Physical Therapy, and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. She is currently on the board of trustees of the American College of Sports Medicine.

UTMB's Department of Physical Therapy was the first of its kind in the state, established in 1968 as part of the School of Allied Health Sciences. Other allied health degrees offered at UTMB include clinical laboratory sciences, occupational therapy, radiologic health sciences certification (in cooperation with Galveston College), physician assistant studies, respiratory care sciences, and an interdisciplinary curriculum in rehabilitation sciences.

## Moody Medical Library exhibit to honor Hispanic heritage

The Moody Medical Library will take part in the UTMB celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month with a unique display blending history and art.

The exhibit titled "Hispanic Heritage" focuses on the historic accomplishments of Dr. Hector P. Garcia, as well as a display of art honoring the themes and traditions of this rich cultural heritage.

The Dr. Hector P. Garcia exhibit is in honor of a great Texan and UTMB alumnus. Garcia was a decorated war hero, a civil rights activist and an advisor to five U.S. Presidents.

The exhibition will display photographs and papers of his life and accomplishments and is held in conjunction with the Garcia Essay Scholarship, which awards \$1,000 to the winning essay.

A luncheon will be held to present the 2002 Hector P. Garcia, M.D., Cultural Competence Award at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 17. The featured speaker will be Texas State Representative Irma Rangel.

The award will be presented to the winner of the Cultural Competence Essay Competition. All UTMB students are eligible for this award that recognizes a student who demonstrates a commitment to

quality health care to all by incorporating cultural knowledge and skills in his or her service to others. Along with a monetary prize, the winner's name will be inscribed on a plaque that is on display in the Jamail Student Center.

For information about the award, visit the web site at [http://studentlife.utmb.edu/hector\\_p\\_garcia.asp](http://studentlife.utmb.edu/hector_p_garcia.asp). A reception for the art exhibit is planned for 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Sept. 17 in the library lobby.

The exhibit is available for viewing during regular Library hours: 7:30 a.m.–midnight, Monday–Friday; 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Saturday; and noon–midnight Sunday.

# Office of Educational Outreach summer programs intrigue youths

The carefree days of summer are a welcome change of pace for most students. During these weeks, the UTMB Office of Educational Outreach offered a wealth of science enrichment camps and programs to stimulate the minds of area children.

## Summer Science Camps I and II

Isolating DNA from human cheek cells, competing in a catapult contest, testing the effects of drugs on daphnia (water flea) and debating issues such as the use of biological weapons in warfare were only the beginning of what 65 Galveston County students learned at UTMB Summer Science Camps I and II, June 10–Aug. 2. Both camps are designed to provide pre-college students with access to basic laboratory research and clinical science information through hands-on experiences and relationships with UTMB faculty mentors.

Summer Science Camps I and II were funded through a grant from the Harris and Eliza Kempner Fund. Camp I provided seventh- and eighth- grade students with hands-on laboratory exercises, problem-solving activities, research-related presentations, tours and field trips. Summer Science Camp II allowed ninth- and 10th-grade students to perform molecular biology and genetics laboratory procedures and work with health sciences professionals. Dr. P. Alan Lennon, director of science education in the Office of Educational Outreach, directed both camps.

## Summer Research Program for High School Students

Eighteen ambitious students with an aptitude for science and professional research participated in the 21st annual Summer Research Program for High School Students, June 10–Aug. 2. This program helps address the critical need in the



*Ivan Sirkov of Austin Middle School in Galveston, Sunayana Chopra of League City Intermediate School and Ankita Mehta of Brookside Intermediate School in Friendswood were amazed with the results of their "flinking" exercise at Summer Science Camp I. The objective of flinking, a combination of floating and sinking, is to create an object that neither floats or sinks. This exercise teaches students about the density of water.*



*Joyce Washington, a medical technician, instructs Ashley Lamb, a participant in the 2002 Summer Research Program for High School Students, how to set up identification and susceptibility panels at the Shriners Microbiology Laboratory. Students had the opportunity to work on ongoing projects in labs at UTMB and Shriners Burns Hospital.*

United States for future scientists and science teachers by providing stimulating hands-on experience in scientific research for high-potential students from throughout the country. This program is unique

because participating students become temporary UTMB employees and work as part of an ongoing research team.

The program receives funding from the National Institutes of Health, American

Chemical Society as well as the university and other private sources. Dr. Dorian Coppenhaver, UTMB associate professor in microbiology and immunology, is the program's director. "Most of the participants came from Galveston County but we also had students from throughout Texas and as far away as Michigan and Puerto Rico," Coppenhaver said.

## National Space Biomedical Research Institute Program

The 2nd annual National Space Biomedical Research Institute Program is a partnership with Rice University that develops premier student and teacher programs introducing participants to biomedical sciences as they relate to space. Funded by the National Space Biomedical Research Institute, this program attracts student investigators and teachers to space-related activities.

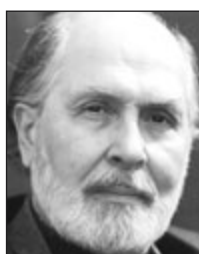
Twelve students in grades 10–12 conducted research with faculty in UTMB and Rice research laboratories from June 10–Aug. 2. Projects included the effect of stress and microgravity on the growth of plants. In addition, students participated in field trips to the Johnson Space Center where they met astronauts and NASA researchers, and attended workshops on such topics as building robotic arms.

Dr. Vimlarani Chopra, UTMB assistant professor in obstetrics and gynecology, served as the co-director of the student component. Dr. Marguerite Sognier, assistant director of science education in the Office of Educational Outreach and researcher at the NASA Johnson Space Center, served as the co-director of the teacher component, which brought 16 teachers from Galveston County and the Houston Independent School District to workshops at UTMB and Rice.

# Islam in contemporary medicine topic of lecture

The role of Islam and medicine in contemporary America will be the topic of a Sept. 27 Spirituality in Health Care Dialogue with Dr. Seyyed H. Nasr titled "What Islam Has to Contribute to the Dialogue between Religion (or Spirituality) and Healthcare." Dr. Ron Carson, professor and director for the Institute for Medical Humanities, will be a respondent in the dialogue.

Nasr is a professor of Islamic studies at George Washington University. Born in 1933 in Tehran, Iran, in a family of educators and scholars, Nasr's father was one of the founders of the Persian educational system. Consequently, he received the best classical Persian and Islamic education dur-



*Dr. Seyyed H. Nasr*

ing his early years in Tehran. He later came to the West to finish his secondary education, attending the Peddle School in New Jersey and MIT, studying physics and mathematics and graduating with honors in 1954.

Nasr received his doctorate from Harvard University in 1958 in the field of history of science and philosophy, with specialization in Islamic cosmology and science.

He has lectured widely throughout the United States, Western Europe, most of the Islamic world, India, Australia and Japan.

For 10 years, he has been a member of the directing committee of the Federation Internationale des Societes Philosophiques, and a member of the Institute International de Philosophie.

Nasr is the author of more than 30 books and more than 300 articles. His works concern not only various aspects of Islamic studies but also comparative philosophy and religion, philosophy of art and the philosophical and religious dimensions of the environmental crisis.

The Spirituality in Healthcare Dialogue is set for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 27 in Levin Hall. It is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at 11th and Market streets.

# Cole to show film at Osler Club meeting

Institute for the Medical Humanities professor Dr. Tom Cole will screen his film "Still Life: The Humanity of Anatomy" at the second meeting of the UTMB Osler Club, 5:30 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Old Red Auditorium.

The film is about the experience of first-year medical students doing their first human dissections in gross anatomy.

Dr. Alice Anne O'Donnell, one of UTMB's six Osler Scholars and professor of family medicine, will put the film into context and lead the discussion.

The event is sponsored by the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine.

## AROUND CAMPUS

PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS

# Sept. 11 commemorative events planned on campus

To the UTMB Community:

The tragic events of last September's terrorist attacks had a profound affect on our nation. Like other communities throughout the country, we at UTMB came together as we grieved to help support the victims in any way we could—through blood drives, prayer, volunteer efforts and donations.

One year later, the memories of Sept. 11, 2001, are a reality for each of us. For many of us, Sept. 11, 2002, will be a day of reflection. Some of us may feel a need to come together again as a community, to remember those who were lost and the tragedy that befell our nation on that dark day.

Several events at UTMB and in the greater Galveston community have been planned to commemorate the attacks and their aftermath:

**Interfaith Service of Remembrance**  
9 a.m.–9:30 a.m. Sept. 11  
Clinical Sciences Auditorium

Hosted by UTMB Pastoral Care and the Council on Religious Ministry  
Call (409) 772-3909 for more information



A letter from  
UTMB President  
John D. Stobo

readings, raising of the flags; special guests: Galveston Fire Department; all are invited. Call Student Services at (409) 772-1996 for information.

**Litany of Remembrance**  
1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.  
Sept. 11  
UTMB Hospital Chapel

Hosted by UTMB Pastoral Care and the Council on Religious Ministry. Call (409) 772-3909 for information.

**Flagpole Dedication and Commemoration Ceremony**  
Noon–12:30 p.m.  
Sept. 11  
Wortham Fountain, in front of the Lee Hage Jamail Student Center

Sponsored and hosted by the UTMB Student Government Association: songs,

**Community Day of Remembrance**  
6 p.m. Sept. 11  
Events planned for Sealy Pavilion (behind Ashton Villa), with procession to Moody Mansion for an informal community meal

Hosted by the Galveston community  
For information, call the UTMB Office of Community Outreach, (409) 747-4899.

Additional information about planned events also is available online at [www.utmb.edu/iutmbevents/911.htm](http://www.utmb.edu/iutmbevents/911.htm)

I encourage anyone who wishes to reflect upon the past year in the company of others to participate in one or more of these events. And I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for all that you have done to help heal the wounds inflicted upon us all one year ago.

John D. Stobo, M.D.  
UTMB President



Nearly 200 people attended the first Mini Medical School session in the Clear Lake area in August. The session discussed women's medical issues. Similar programs are planned for Houston in the coming months.

## Clear Lake Mini Medical School a success

Mini Medical School 2002 made its debut in Clear Lake on Aug. 7. Nearly 200 participants enjoyed a fascinating lecture on women's issues presented by UTMB faculty members Dr. Mahendra Gohil and Dr. Edward Hannigan. Weekly sessions continue at Space Center Houston through Aug. 28.

The next series of Houston Mini Medical School sessions begin Sept. 25 with Osler Scholar Dr. Joan Richardson discussing Sir William Osler. Other Houston sessions are:

- Oct. 2—"What's a Woman to Do? The Prempro Controversy"
- Oct. 9—"Oh, My Aching Joints: Understanding Osteoarthritis"
- Oct. 16—"Marine Biomedicine: How the Ocean's Health Affects Your Own"
- Oct. 23—"Botox: A New Wrinkle in the Fight Against Aging"
- Oct. 30—"Nanomedicine: Tiny Technology Holds Huge Promise for Health Care"

All programs are 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. in the John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science, 1515 Hermann Drive. For information, visit [www.utmb.edu/minimed](http://www.utmb.edu/minimed) or call (409) 747-8192.



Photo by Carrie Ann Davis

UTMB's Regional Maternal and Child Health Program Center in Pasadena celebrated its recent expansion with an open house, dedication ceremony and ribbon cutting. Pasadena Mayor John Manlove, UTMB President John D. Stobo, UTMB Chairman of Obstetrics and Gynecology Garland Anderson, UTMB Regional Maternal Child Health Program Administrative Director Carolyn Nelson-Becker and Harris County Public Health Services Interim Executive Director Dr. Chau Buu commended the hard work and dedication of the clinic's doctors and staff. Stobo said the creativity, cooperative working relationships and "can do" attitudes at the facility make this program a model. In March 1992, UTMB co-located the RMCH clinic with the Harris County Health Department Southeast Clinic in Pasadena. The partnership allowed for decreased waiting times and the ability to provide high-risk obstetrical services within the clinic. This year's expansion marks the fourth in the clinic's history and more than doubles its size. UTMB's RMCHP is a system of 38 clinics in East and Southeast Texas, serving more than 86,000 women and children.

## Winner announced in Speakers' Bureau contest

When the UTMB Speakers' Bureau was looking for a snappy new name for its program, the university community responded with gusto, sending in more than 250 entries. From these entries, Sheril Talmo's "UTMB HealthMatters" was selected.

Talmo is a telecommuting employee who is responsible for updates and maintenance on the Institutional Handbook of Operating Procedures. Talmo takes home the grand prize package for her winning entry.

"HealthMatters" is one of the many ways members of the university community share their expertise with others outside of UTMB. It coordinates presentations made to community groups by UTMB faculty and staff on a wide variety of health-related topics.

For information on the program, call the Office of University Advancement at (409) 772-6377, or visit the web site at <http://www.utmb.edu/speakers/>.

# Davis named space and life sciences director at JSC

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

Beginning Sept. 9, Dr. Jeffrey Davis, professor and director of clinical preventive medicine, will assume the position of Director of Space and Life Sciences at the Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston.

In July of 2001, Davis assumed the position of deputy associate administrator for crew health and safety at NASA Headquarters. Since then, Davis has been dividing his time between NASA and UTMB under an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) that allows him to be "on loan" from UTMB to contribute his expertise in the area of the development of space medicine. He will continue to work under the IPA as director of space and life sciences, serving 80 percent of his time at JSC and NASA Headquarters, and 20 percent of his time coordinating and administrating the UTMB Preventive Medicine Residency Program and Corporate Health Consortium.

Davis is no stranger to JSC and NASA, having served the space programs from 1984 to 1991 in a variety of positions including flight surgeon, chief of the flight medicine clinic and chief of the medical operations branch. From 1991 to 1994 he served as corporate medical director for American Airlines, Inc.

Davis joined UTMB in 1995 with the goal to establish programs in preventive medicine. He and his colleagues

formed the Preventive Occupational and Environmental Medicine program (POEM). As director, Davis also oversaw the development of the general preventive medicine, aerospace medicine and occupational medicine residency programs. Davis says he believes that UTMB is the only university that offers all three of these residency programs. In 1997, UTMB and NASA formed a partnership to offer a fully accredited aerospace medicine residency program—one of four in the United States.

Davis worked with UTMB internal medicine's Dr. Tom Blackwell to develop a combined aerospace medicine residency program and internal medicine residency program, making the combined program the only one of its kind in the United States.

"Residents can come through in four years and go through both residency programs," he said. "They actually save a year of training time."

Davis says that the appeal of his new position is the implementation of a comprehensive bioastronautics program.

"The bioastronautics program is inclusive of all the health care and the biomedical research to ensure the health, safety and performance of humans during space flight," he said. "It's intended to be a very integrated combination of medicine and research to enable human space flight."

UTMB Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine

and Community Health and Senior Associate Dean of Administration Dr. Harvey Bunce said that Davis is a tremendous asset to UTMB, NASA and the Johnson Space Center.

"Dr. Davis has expertise of the highest caliber in aerospace medicine and is a key individual in molding the future of the field," he said. "We at UTMB are very pleased to be a part of this collaborative effort between NASA and higher education."

Davis earned his bachelor's degree at Stanford University, his medical degree at the University of California at San Diego and his master's degree in aerospace medicine at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Davis currently serves as the chair of the American Board of Preventive Medicine, and just completed service as chair of the Residency Review Committee for Preventive Medicine. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

He belongs to several professional societies and associations including the Civil Aviation Medical Association, the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. He is an American College of Preventive Medicine Fellow and past president of the Aerospace Medical Association.

# First head of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery department dies

By JENNIFER REYNOLDS-SANCHEZ

On Tuesday, Aug. 20, Dr. Carl Emil Schow Jr., the first head of the UTMB Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, passed away at the age of 84 after a long battle with prostate cancer.

Born March 22, 1918, in Chickasha, Okla., Schow moved to Clifton, Texas, when he was a freshman in high school, and graduated from Clifton High School in 1937. He attended Clifton College for one semester and in 1938 entered Baylor University as a pre-dental student.

At Baylor, Schow met and fell in love with a nurse named Mary Jane Wilson. On Dec. 29, 1943, while he was attending the St. Louis University School of Dentistry in St. Louis, Mo., the couple married. Three years later they celebrated the birth of their first son, Carl Emil III. That same year, Schow received his Doctor of Dental Science degree with honors.

The Schows' second son, John Charles, was born in 1947, and their third son, Olan Weldon in 1950.

After receiving his D.D.S. degree, Schow

served his oral surgery internship at the University of Tennessee School of Dentistry in Memphis, and his residency at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine and University Hospitals in Oklahoma City. In 1953, he joined the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine Department of Surgery where he served as an instructor and associate professor in oral surgery. He practiced oral surgery in Lawton, Okla., and was an attending oral surgery associate professor at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine from 1954 to 1969. It was there that he became the first full-time director of oral surgery.

Schow joined UTMB in 1969 as an associate professor and the first chief of oral and maxillofacial surgery in the Department of Surgery. He later became the first doctor of dentistry to attain the rank of professor of surgery at UTMB. Schow served under three UTMB presidents—Drs. Truman Blocker, William Levin and Thomas James.

In 1999, Schow was recognized with an endowed chair in his name. His successor and dear friend, Dr. Elgene Mainous, is the inaugural holder of that chair.

After his retirement from UTMB, Schow continued to meet with residents on a weekly basis to offer advice and share stories. He was a man known for his vast knowledge and wit.

"He lived for Thursdays when he would come to talk to the residents," Mainous said. "He was very dedicated. The residents loved him."

Schow was loved by many within the UTMB and Galveston communities. He cherished his family, especially his three grandchildren. He also loved animals.

"Back when his Doberman, Evita, was still alive, he'd take that dog for a ride every day," remembered Schow's friend and office manager, Kathy Bradley. "Sometimes at lunchtime he'd call me up and say 'Hey Kat, can you get away for a minute?' and we'd go for a ride with the dog."

Schow was also an avid sports fan and loved attending Baylor Bears football games. Mainous said that even toward the end of his life, one of Schow's favorite pastimes was to visit his alma mater to attend Bears football games. "When he got on that cam-

pus his whole personality changed, he had no problems."

A respected surgeon, Schow was a member of many professional organizations including the American Dental Association. He was named Dentist of the Year in 1973 by the Ninth District Dental Association of Texas and named to Who's Who Among Outstanding Texans in 1974. In 1979 he was appointed Special Consultant to the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

Schow retired from UTMB in 1989 but continued to contribute to UTMB through his weekly sessions with residents and his work on the UTMB President's Cabinet.

Schow was buried on Aug. 24, in Clifton, Texas. Among his pallbearers were his colleagues and friends Drs. Mainous, Roger Thronson, Courtney Townsend Jr., Galveston Mayor Roger Quiroga and friend, Frank Williamson. As a last gesture of friendship and a final goodbye, Schow's Baylor Bears Foundation Membership Athletic Card was slipped into his pocket before the interment.

"He will be missed," Mainous said.

## EMPOWER from Page 1

keeping a journal and stress reduction techniques. Empower also fosters appreciation of self and others.

According to Bray, as the weeks pass, the students become more confident, value themselves more and exhibit increased abilities in different areas such as academics, sports and their home life. She says it is one of the most positive programs she has been involved with.

“The kids are absolutely wonderful, and many of them just soak up the attention and the regard that you give them,” Bray said. “We have set up an environment where they are unconditionally accepted, respected and tended to. That is pretty special. It gives them a feeling of ‘I’m good,’ and I think that does a lot for how people live their lives.”

While the data analysis is preliminary, so far the results are encouraging. At the end of the nine-week program, Empower participants reported lower levels of depression and higher levels of skills that enable academic success, such as motivation, engagement and study skills.

“I use the crisscross and lazy eights exercises every day before school to get my brain ready to learn,” said a 14-year-old

Empower participant. “I’m studying for TAAS right now, and the exercises help keep me focused. I did better on the practice test than I have in the past, and I’m ready for the real thing.”

Acting on the success of the program, several teachers and counselors from the Galveston Independent School District participated in the Mind, Body, Spirit Program during the summer. Participating in a 12-week program is the first step toward becoming an Empower group facilitator. Because there has been such a positive response to the program from the GISD teachers and administrators, Bray and Nash anticipate that all of the individuals who attended the course will apply what they learned to their individual schools and classrooms.

“My participation in the MBSP and the Empower Galveston Youth Program has reinforced my commitment to a holistic approach to education,” Bray said. “I am even more convinced that when individuals are self-aware and empowered to effect change in their own lives, they can more effectively teach those skills to others. The skills taught in the MBSP and Empower program are useful to students at all levels, from middle school through graduate school and beyond.”

## EMERGENCY from Page 1

order to streamline administration in the Emergency Department, the three co-medical director positions will be consolidated immediately—creating a single medical director position dedicated solely to overseeing the department’s operations.

Keeney, assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics, will serve as interim director while the search for a permanent director is conducted. Blackwell will continue as the associate dean for graduate medical education.

English, director of medical education for the Department of Emergency Medicine, will continue to maintain his responsibilities with medical students and residents. Mileski will continue as the director of trauma services. Mike Hill, executive director in Hospital Administration, has been appointed to oversee the operations of Emergency Services.

Once the new medical director is on board, he or she and Hill will be responsible for overseeing department faculty, staff and operations, and will report directly to Sexton for operations and to the chairman of the Department of Surgery, Dr. Courtney Townsend Jr., for medical care

issues. Mileski will work closely with Townsend and Hill to evaluate and strengthen the trauma program overall, including trauma care provided in the Emergency Department.

Additional changes include the interim appointment of Jennifer Nitschman, director of critical care nursing, as administrative director of emergency services. She will report to Hill, and her new responsibilities will include all Emergency Department operations, in addition to her current nursing leadership responsibilities.

A steering committee also is being formed and will be charged with establishing work teams to gather input from a wide range of sources—including national benchmarking data—to determine whether or not changes in current policies, practices and procedures are warranted.

“From the top down, we are all committed to making the emergency room a place that makes us all proud,” Sexton said. “By implementing this new line of leadership, UTMB will improve operating efficiency and work satisfaction among staff and faculty in our Emergency Department and, at the same time, provide excellent care and improved access for people suffering life-threatening illness and injuries.”

# UTMB IMPACT

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