

IMPACT

Parisi appointed to Thomas N. and Gleaves T. James Distinguished Chair

By J. Christian Messa

Dr. Valerie M. Parisi, dean of medicine, has been appointed to the Thomas N. and Gleaves T. James Distinguished Chair. Created in honor of UTMB's third president and his wife, the distinguished chair was largely funded by The Sealy &



Dr. Valerie Parisi

Smith Foundation, Houston Endowment Inc. and John S. Dunn Research Foundation.

Parisi, the second faculty member to hold the endowed

position, said she was surprised by the announcement. "I'm so honored to be selected for this distinguished chair, particularly since it bears the name of the university's former president and his wife," Parisi said. "This endowment is a great mark of distinction, and I'm humbled to have been appointed to it."

Parisi is already noted for becoming the first female dean of UTMB's medical school in 2004. She is one of only 14 women nationwide who serve as deans among the nation's 125 medical schools. In addition to her role as dean of medicine, she was recently named chief academic officer and vice president for academic program administration and services at UTMB. Prior to joining the academic health center, she chaired the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of

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ONE FORMER PATIENT'S GIFT *20 years after kidney transplant, still going strong*

By Judie Kinonen

It was Sept. 9, 1985, and 23-year-old Jim Kaufman of Clear Lake was watching a Dallas Cowboys football game on television when he received the call so many wait for: A young girl's family had just donated her organs, and her kidney was a match for Jim. The next day, Dr. Jay Fish, UTMB professor of surgery, transplanted the new kidney, and now—20 years later—Jim shares a remarkable success story. Jim offers thanks to those who helped him through his kidney illness and inspiration to anyone considering giving "the gift of life" through organ and tissue donation.

Why did you need a kidney transplant at such a young age?

I have a rare hereditary disorder called Alport's Syndrome. One of the things it does is make your blood pressure skyrocket occasionally. I was on a trip when I was 22 years old, in the summer of '83. I was in Germany and passed out in the parking lot of the Dachau concentration camp. When they got me to the emergency room, my blood pressure was 260/190. It damaged my kidneys, and then in about November, it happened again. I managed to finish college that spring—barely!—but was on dialysis soon thereafter.

How have you coped with Alport's Syndrome?

My blood pressure has been under control for over 20 years now. Alport's does a number of other things, such as deforming the lenses in the eyes and damaging hearing. But, I've had great doctors and am doing fine—hearing aids, new lenses in my eyes—thanks to the young and my family. And, of course, to the young girl whose family donated her organs after she passed away.



Jim Kaufman, a 20-year kidney transplant survivor, is pictured running the 2004 Houston Half-Marathon.

my first marathon (a 26.2-mile run) in March 2004 at the Seabrook Lucky Trails Marathon. I tend to be pretty slow due to some of the medications I have to take, but I tell my friends in the running club, "I may be slow, but I'm the fastest one in the club running on borrowed parts!"

After my transplant, I also regained my pilot's license. I had been flying for a few years before the incident in Germany. I flew again for a while, but gave it up because it was just too expensive. But, it was shortly after the transplant, and I just wanted to do it again, just to tell myself I'd done it again. This kidney thing isn't going to stop me from doing anything I want to do.

What did you learn from your experience with kidney disease?

First, after college I moved back in with my parents for a couple of years. I got to see them as people, rather than as my parents—if that makes sense. My parents will always be my parents, and I love them. The kidney problems, I probably would never have had the chance to get to see them in that way.

Another big benefit is that these problems taught me that life is short, as they say. You never know when you might pass on, and you should enjoy life. Most 23-year-olds think they will live forever. I learned that is not the case and have been thankful for seeing that clearly at a young age.

Having been through what I went through, it has also helped me see sick or disabled people differently. Not that I was uncaring before, but I have a lot more empathy for

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Submissions

We welcome and will consider any submissions for *Impact*. Items that are accepted are subject to editing for style and length. Send your items for *Impact* to the address above and we will do our best to accommodate you. Questions? Call us and someone will be glad to help you.

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Galveston civic leader pledges to establish first endowed professorship in rheumatology

Lynn Levin Cantini Professorship will support research, treatment of musculoskeletal disorders.

By J. Christian Messa

Galveston community leader Lynn Cantini has made a commitment to establish the first endowed professorship in the Division of Rheumatology. The Lynn Levin Cantini Professorship in Rheumatology will support the study and treatment of disorders that affect the joints, bones and muscles, especially autoimmune diseases.

Dr. Emilio B. Gonzalez, director of the Division of Rheumatology in the Department of Internal Medicine, said the Cantini Professorship will help play a vital role in ongoing research of conditions such as connective tissue diseases, including lupus and rheumatoid arthritis. "This endowment will fund important research involving these debilitating conditions, the results of which may one day bring relief to millions," Gonzalez said. "I'm grateful to Mrs. Cantini for her vision and commitment to establishing the division's first endowed professorship."

UTMB President John D. Stobo said the university is fortunate to have Cantini among its benefactors. "This generous pledge follows the tradition of her family's philanthropy, selflessly giving to the UTMB community and inspiring faculty and students to achieve remarkable results," Stobo said. "We are privileged to have Lynn Cantini's support and advocacy."



Armin and Lynn Cantini

Cantini is the daughter of Dr. William C. Levin, president emeritus of UTMB. Levin himself recently pledged to establish a lectureship in hematology and oncology at the academic health center. Cantini, her husband, Armin, her sister and brother-in-law, Gerry and Eugene Hornstein, and her father founded the Levin Family Foundation, which in 1998 created the Edna Seinsheimer Levin Professorship in Cancer Studies at UTMB. The endowment was established in memory of Lynn and Gerry's mother, who died of cancer in 1996.

Lynn Cantini's recent pledge, to be fulfilled

through a charitable bequest, is part of the university's *Timeless Values, Pioneering Solutions* campaign, a five-year, \$250 million fund-raising initiative to enhance areas of excellence in teaching the art and science of health care; infectious diseases, biodefense and vaccine development; health care access and telehealth; and longevity, chronic diseases and neurological recovery.

Lynn and Armin Cantini have been staunch UTMB supporters, contributing to such programs and initiatives as the Children's Hospital Fund, the Russell Shearn Moody Distinguished Chair in Neurological Rehabilitation, and the Salute to Nursing Scholarship Fund. They are also members of the President's Cabinet, a volunteer organization that advances UTMB's mission by providing seed money for initiatives that improve the quality of life in the Galveston area. Armin Cantini is vice president of The Private Bank at Bank of America-Galveston.

Lynn Cantini is actively involved in the Galveston community. Among her civic responsibilities, she has chaired The Grand 1894 Opera House program committee and the Galveston Historical Foundation's historic homes tour selection committee. Cantini has also served on the boards of the American Cancer Society, Temple B'Nai Israel, Children's Protective Services and the Mental Health Association. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from The University of Texas at Austin and her master's degree in speech pathology from the University of Houston. She is a former classroom teacher, educational diagnostician and speech pathologist.

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people now who have problems. "There, but for the grace of God, go I." I've been really sick, and I know what it feels like to be down and miserable. I tend to sympathize with them much more easily.

As an athlete, what do you have planned for the future?

I did the "Run for the Rose" 5K at Reliant this year, and will do that each year, I think. It raises money for brain cancer research. There are a number of marathons

I'm planning to do... and will do... over the next few years. I wanted to run the 2004 Seabrook Lucky Trails Marathon because it was put on by my running club and the proceeds were donated to one of our members who's trying to raise money for a liver transplant. Plus, I just wanted a "marathon finisher" shirt to wear in case anyone waiting for a kidney wants to talk to me. I'll wear it to show them they can do whatever they really want to do—in spite of their current problems. I know any obstacle can be overcome.

Did you know?

- More than 90,000 people are waiting for an organ
- Each day, about 74 people receive an organ transplant. However, 17 people die each day waiting for transplants that can't take place because of the shortage of donated organs.
- You can print a donor card from the web site www.organdonor.gov.

UTMB physicians among those providing medical care to astronauts

By Seena Simon

When spaceflight participant Dr. Greg Olsen made a 10-day trip to space to board the International Space Station, it was with the behind-the-scenes backing of physicians in the division of Clinical Preventive Medicine within the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health.

Olsen, a 60-year-old entrepreneur, made international headlines when he paid \$20 million to fly into space in a Russian Soyuz space capsule carrying one Russian cosmonaut and one NASA astronaut. In October, Olsen's capsule launched from Kazakhstan, a former Soviet republic. Olsen spent 10 days in space before he returned to Kazakhstan.

Olsen had been preparing for two and a half years for his space trip with help from doctors, residents and staff at UTMB in conjunction with physicians at several other institutions. Dr. Richard Jennings, chief of the UTMB aerospace medicine residency program, served as his flight surgeon during his launch, on-orbit operations, and landing. Jennings is a UTMB associate professor of clinical preventive medicine who has been involved with 15 NASA launches during his career. While Olsen was in orbit, Jennings was at the Russian Mission Control in Korolev, located near Moscow. From there, Jennings talked to Olsen every day to evaluate his medical condition.

Olsen has agreed to let those involved with his medical evaluation and treatment publish the medical data from his treatment, certification and space mission. Research on Olsen's medical condition and information on how his body fared in space will provide knowledge that will benefit future astronauts, Jennings said.



Dr. Richard Jennings, chief of the UTMB aerospace medicine residency program, is pictured with his medical pack on his back. Jennings served as his flight surgeon for Dr. Greg Olsen during his launch, on-orbit operations, and landing. Jennings is a UTMB associate professor of clinical preventive medicine who has been involved with 15 NASA launches during his career.

"Dr. Olsen sees the value of the knowledge that can be gained from his space flight for those who follow him," Jennings said. "It's a great gift."

Today's professional astronauts are relatively young and in excellent health. So far, American space flights have been of relatively short duration and don't provide great knowledge regarding treatment for deleterious medical conditions. But with NASA's plans to send human space flights to the moon and Mars, future astronauts could expect to spend several years in reduced gravity and remote from Earth, during which time they may be susceptible to serious medical problems. And with the booming interest in space flight among private citizens, more "regular" people can be expected to travel in space. Among these are older people who have a greater likelihood of having chronic med-

ical problems. "A new frontier is opening," Jennings said.

UTMB has one of only two civilian aerospace medicine residency programs in the nation. The UTMB program is a partnership with NASA's Johnson Space Center.

A large number of UTMB clinical faculty played quiet roles in Olsen's space trip. UTMB physicians, along with others, performed the examinations and medical screening of Dr. Olsen to evaluate whether he was fit for space travel.

Dr. Gene Dowell, a UTMB/Wyle physician, serves as the deputy crew surgeon for NASA astronaut William McArthur, who was a crewmember on the Soyuz TMA 7 capsule carrying Olsen. Dowell attended the launch in Baikonur and then returned to JSC for the remainder of the six month flight

Meanwhile, Dr. Blake Chamberlain, another UTMB/Wyle physician, followed the mission from the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City. UTMB physicians involved with the aerospace medicine program rotate as flight surgeons in Star City, working alongside Russian and other international flight surgeons.

Jennings was available to care for Dr. Olsen's relatives, friends and associates who accompanied him to Kazakhstan. The launch and landing site in Kazakhstan are in remote locations about a two-hour flight from a full-service hospital.

Three UTMB aerospace medicine residents—Drs. Serena Aunon, Sean Hollonbeck and Shean Phelps—were assigned to assemble a portable advanced life support medical kit for Jennings to take to Kazakhstan. The kit, carried in a backpack, had advanced life support capability to treat problems from episodic illness to life threatening conditions.

Hollonbeck and Phelps are military flight surgeons with recent experience in the elite U.S. Army Special Operations Command. That role has put them in remote hot spots around the world to treat American troops wounded in battle behind enemy lines. That background in practicing medicine in hostile environments came in handy for the Greg Olsen mission, which required portable medical capability.

Having to carry a backpack with life-saving medical equipment out of military helicopters is something Hollonbeck and Phelps did before they entered the UTMB aerospace medicine residency program. "For what we do in the Army, our hospital is the back of a military aircraft," Phelps said. "We tested the concept in the crucible of warfare."

Johnson Space Center director tours joint programs at UTMB

By Cathy C. Nall



Adrian Perachio hosted Michael Coats, former shuttle astronaut and newly named director of Johnson Space Center, along with his staff to discuss ongoing partnerships between the two institutions.

The NASA delegation first met with UTMB President John D. Stobo. Coats then inspected the Short-Radius Centrifuge (shown in the picture to the left) and toured the UTMB General Clinical Research Clinic's Flight Analog Facility where the bed-rest studies are performed. Coats' final stop was the UTMB Electronic

Health Network. UTMB's EHN operates several flight medicine programs, as well as conducts international telemedicine for NASA and Johnson Space Center.

Before becoming head of JSC, Coats was vice president of Lockheed Martin Astronautics in Denver. He is now the ninth person to serve as the space center's director in its 44-year history.

Coats joined NASA in 1978, as a member of the first astronaut class specifically selected to fly the space shuttle. Coats flew three shuttle missions, including the maiden flight of Discovery in 1984.

Huang newest member of McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine

By J. Christian Messa

Dr. Frederick S. Huang, assistant professor and director of the Division of Hematology/Oncology in the Department of Pediatrics, has been appointed to the university's John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine in recognition of his devotion to compassionate, patient-centered health care.

Known as a William Osler Scholar during his five-year tenure in the academy, Huang joins seven other members—Drs. Jack B. Alperin, Judith F. Aronson, Robert E. Beach, Alfredo F. Gei, Mark D. Holden, C. Joan Richardson and Barbara L. Thompson. Dr. Alice A. O'Donnell stepped down as a funded member of the academy, although she will continue to participate in the group's programs and activities. The scholars are practicing UTMB faculty physicians selected by their colleagues for demonstrating an exceptional ability to treat patients skillfully and respectfully, to teach medical students to do likewise, and to serve as role models for their students and their peers.

The McGovern Academy was established in 2001 when the John P. McGovern Foundation, founded by Houston physician John P. McGovern, contributed \$5 million to UTMB to create endowments for five Osler Scholars. The academy honors the work of Sir William Osler (1849-1919), a Canadian doctor who pioneered



Dr. Frederick S. Huang

many revolutionary approaches to teaching clinical medicine, most notably the modern medical residency program and the practice of bedside teaching for medical students. Above all, Osler stressed the importance of caring and having strong ethical principles in being a physician.

McGovern gave additional funds to UTMB in 2003 to create an endowment for a sixth Osler Scholar as well as six Osler Student Scholarships for medical students who exemplify the renowned physician's compassionate ideals. In 2004, McGovern

made another gift to UTMB to establish endowments for two more William Osler Scholar positions, create six additional Osler Student Scholarships and fund the Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards. The annual awards recognize UTMB faculty who epitomize excellence in this form of education. Osler returned clinical teaching to prominence after 19th-century medical education had become dominated by lectures and laboratory work.

Huang, who cares for babies, children, adolescents and young adults with blood disorders and cancer, said he is humbled by his appointment to the McGovern Academy.

"I am honored that I was chosen to join a group of physicians held in such high esteem for their principles, compassion and teaching," he said. "I am excited about the opportunities that lie before me, and I look forward to contributing in the best way that I can."

Dr. Lawrence R. Stanberry, chair of the Department of Pediatrics, said Huang's induction into the McGovern Academy is a fitting tribute to his work at the academic health center. "Dr. Huang has demonstrated an acute attention to the compassionate ideals espoused by Sir William Osler," said Stanberry, who also directs the university's Sealy Center for Vaccine Development and holds the John Sealy Distinguished Chair in Pediatrics. "His dedication to caring humanely for some of UTMB's

youngest patients makes him an ideal selection for admission into this esteemed group of physicians."

During his tenure in the McGovern Academy, Huang will work with the other Osler Scholars in developing and implementing ways to integrate Oslerian ideals into UTMB's curriculum and clinical care.

Huang earned his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1994 and completed his residency in pediatrics at Baylor's affiliated hospitals three years later. He conducted his fellowship training in pediatric hematology/oncology at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Huang, who joined the UTMB faculty in 2001, is a principal investigator with the Children's Oncology Group, which provides the latest treatments for childhood cancer. He is also a member of UTMB's Child Health Research Center and is conducting research on mucositis, a gastrointestinal injury resulting from the toxicity of chemotherapy cancer treatments. Huang teaches numerous courses in the university's schools of Medicine, Allied Health Sciences and Graduate Biomedical Sciences and has been recognized as an outstanding instructor, having received the Class of 1947 Excellence in Education Award and the Department of Pediatrics' Golden Rattle Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching.

American Cancer Society funding to launch research at UTMB

By Jennifer Reynolds-Sanchez

The American Cancer Society has awarded UTMB a grant to train a new generation of researchers to continue the ongoing effort to eradicate cancer.

The American Cancer Society's nearly \$250,000 Institutional Research Grant will foster the career development of junior faculty members from the UTMB Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

The primary purpose of this program is to provide "seed" money to support the initiation of promising new projects by junior faculty members so they can obtain preliminary results that will enable them to compete successfully for national research



Dr. B. Mark Evers

grant funding. The program accomplishes this goal by mentoring junior faculty with established researchers working in the same or related areas. The mentors at each site are National Institutes of Health-funded

investigators who have a commitment to fostering interdisciplinary approaches to cancer research. The program will develop a cadre of independently funded scientists who can advance and perpetuate an interdisciplinary team approach to finding new ways to treat and prevent cancer.

"This is a very exciting opportunity for our junior faculty to begin important research

early on in their careers," said Dr. Mark Evers, interim director of the UTMB Sealy Center for Cancer Cell Biology and principal investigator of the grant. "It is also a great honor for UTMB to be recognized by the American Cancer Society—the nation's largest private, non-profit source of funds for cancer research—as a leader in cancer research."

The total award of \$247,500 will be allocated three ways over three years. In addition to funding basic science research, the grant will also support studies of special interest to society, including psychosocial and behavioral research, health policy, cancer among the poor and childhood cancer. There will also be a small stipend available each year for one outstanding medical or biomedical sciences graduate student to

pursue cancer-related research while still enrolled in a formal degree program.

The overall mission and predominant focus of the Sealy Center for Cancer Cell Biology is to promote original scientific research of the molecular and cellular biology of cancer and to facilitate translation of novel research findings into clinical applications for the improved treatment, diagnosis and prevention of cancer.

The center aims to integrate all ongoing efforts in cancer research, clinical care, education and prevention into a larger cancer center effort with multidisciplinary, multi-departmental and multi-institutional components to provide the most up-to-date and compassionate care for the cancer patient.

EMR project comes with intensive planning, expectations

By Michele Rainford

The Electronic Medical Record (EMR) project is a major, multi-year commitment on the part of UTMB to transition effectively to electronic patient records, and ultimately to a paper-less clinical environment. Going to EMR is not a quixotic undertaking. Painstaking planning and research was done and ongoing discussions continue with committees and individuals from every affected area on campus.

UTMB is not alone in the pursuit of an EMR system. In the spring of 2004, U.S. President George Bush set a goal of having computerized health records for every American within 10 years, and the Department of Health and Human Services is funding numerous health information technology (HIT) related projects. It is evident that the EMR's time has come.

The April 2005 issue of Health Informatics Online stated that at a Feb. 14 media briefing, CEO David Garets of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), a U.S. nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting a better understanding of health care information and management systems, reported that a "complete EMR requires a clinical data repository (CDR), computerized provider order entry (CPOE), electronic records in the health information management department, an electronic medication administration record, a picture archiving and communications system (PACS), point-of-care documentation, and laboratory, radiology and pharmacy information systems." The data in the EMR is the legal record of what happened to the patient during encounters at their medical care provider or care delivery organization.

UTMB's comprehensive EMR system has all of these components and more, and it has been customized to suit the uniquely complex needs of the UTMB campus.



The EMR Project Direction Team comprises (standing left to right) Ralph Farr, Information Services leader; Dr. Poldi Tschirch, director of nursing informatics; Dr. Christopher Mast, assistant professor of family medicine, associate physician project director and lead physician analyst for the EMR project; (seated left to right) Andrew DeYoung, executive director Hospital Administration; and Dr. Michael Warren, the Robert Earl Cone Professor of Surgery, chief of the Division of Urology and EMR physician project director.

On Sept. 14, 2005, the journal of Health Affairs reported a study by RAND Health, an independent, nonprofit research organization based in Santa Monica, California, that has a team devoted to studying the role of health information technology in health care. According to RAND, America's healthcare system could save more than \$81 billion annually and improve the quality of care if it were to widely adopt electronic patient records.

Richard Hillestad, A RAND senior management scientist who led the two-year study, stated, "Our findings strongly suggest that it is time for the government and others who pay for health care to aggressively promote health information technology."

The study found that electronic medical records could save money by reducing unnecessary care, improving patient treatment timeframes, enhancing safety and generally keeping patients healthier. The study is the most detailed analysis ever conducted of the potential benefits of EMR.

EMR simply makes sense—from an organizational standpoint, a time-saving standpoint, a cost-saving standpoint, and most important of all, a patient-care standpoint.

According to the article "Residents' Suggestions for Reducing Errors in Teaching Hospitals" by Drs. Kevin G.M. Volpp and David Grande in the Sounding Board section of the Feb. 27, 2003 issue of The New

England Journal of Medicine online, "Wide use of electronic medical-record systems would also help reduce medical errors. With electronic records, providers within a hospital or health care system would have access to a common data base of medical information, including but not limited to previous laboratory and diagnostic studies, previous electrocardiograms, notes about outpatient visits and hospitalizations, and records of drug allergies. The ensuing reductions in medical errors, redundant testing, and procedures performed on the wrong patient, as well as improvements in efficiency, would result in cost savings that would offset, at least in part, the cost of implementing the system."

Undoubtedly, the EMR project is one of the largest and most extensive implementation efforts ever initiated at UTMB. The spirit of corporation at UTMB has been evident in the way the clinical enterprise has not only accepted the need for this system, but has embraced the efforts and training necessary for a successful implementation.

Dr. Christopher Mast, assistant professor of family medicine, lead physician analyst for the EMR project and one of two EMR physician project directors (the other is Dr. Michael Warren, the Robert Earl Cone Professor of Surgery and Chief, Division of Urology) has put in writing the project structure that is in place for the EMR. The project structure is just one of the many ways the EMR project team is working to keep the campus informed as it moves forward with the EMR project.

The EMR project team has diligently prepared and has established an implementation process that will lead to a successful and efficient EMR system at UTMB.

For a list of committees and project teams and their members, please visit the EMR web site at www.utmb.edu/emr/.

'Legends and Lore' being collected for 2006 Support Staff Conference

The 16th annual OASSC will be March 7 and 8 at Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention center. The theme for this year's event is Living Legends ~ Leaving Legacies.

In keeping with this theme, and building on the employee and group tributes collected during the past two years, we are currently seeking tales of employee heroism, incredible examples of service and commitment, and over the top instances of putting

others before oneself. If you can think of an example of a colleague making you puff-your-chest-out-proud to be associated with UTMB, tell us about it.

We plan to assemble the stories and share them far and wide, possibly in published form.

Criteria are:

- Submissions should be under 500 words
- Event or story must have taken place in past 10 years

- Must have had a direct or indirect impact on the mission of UTMB
- Deadline for submissions is Monday, Feb. 20, 2006

Everyone who submits a story will be acknowledged. Two winners will be drawn (one each day of the conference) from among all who submit a legend. Each winner and his or her three guests will be treated to a special gourmet lunch at Open Gates.

If you have a story or know a story that has the makings of our next great legend, some incredible event or some awe-inspiring person who through an action exemplified the best of UTMB, share your story.

To send in your story, visit www.utmb.edu/oassc before the Feb. 20 deadline. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mary Broom via email at mbroom@utmb.edu or by phone at ext. 76708.

The holidays at UTMB never pass unnoticed. Employees take time out of their days to gather toys and goodies for others in the community. Friends of UTMB visit the hospital bringing cheer to our patients. Here is a quick look at how holiday cheer was spread this past season at UTMB.



Medical student leads toy drive for cleft palate patients

Fourth-year medical student Roland Morales (left), and Dr. Steven Blackwell, professor of plastic surgery and director of the cleft palate/craniofacial project, present a bag of toys to 9-year-old Liberty Tuberville, a patient in the cleft palate program, during clinic on Dec. 14. Morales led a toy drive through UTMB's Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Interest Group to be able to present toys to the kids in the clinic this holiday. The group of 62 members collected enough to fill 57 bags of toys.



Children's Hospital patients treated to Christmas party

Santa made an early stop at Children's Hospital to deliver gifts at the annual Christmas Party. Hospital staff entertained the kids with carols on hand bells before letting some of the guests try their hands at the instruments. The party is an annual tradition that provides the children a chance to be out of their hospital rooms and experience the joy of the Christmas season.



Faculty Women's Club donates toys

The UTMB Faculty Women's Club celebrated the holidays with its annual luncheon, style show and toy drive benefiting the UTMB Child Life and School Services Department. Nearly 40 members showed up bearing gifts for the children at UTMB. Janis Matthews (left), director of Child Life and School Services, along with Regina Burdette (right), a child life specialist, were the guests of honor and accepted the toys on behalf of UTMB. The gifts were distributed to children in the hospital.

Other items...

- The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences adopted its inpatient units for the Spirit of Giving.
- Guests from Dickens on The Strand visited Children's Hospital in early December (photo included in December issue of Impact).
- Correctional Managed Care employees created an Angel Tree project where children of Texas inmates are provided gifts. UTMB's Jester IV employees provided presents for more than 20 kids, including a toy costing up to \$25 plus an article of clothing.
- The Regional Maternal Child Health Program clinic in Angleton shared the holidays together with a festive office party.



Children visit pediatric, geriatric patients

The children of Paige and Tilman Ferritta, supporters of UTMB and owners of Landry's Restaurants and the San Luis Resort, Spa and Conference Center, visited Galveston's hospitals to bring Christmas cheer (and some goodies) to the patients. Patrick, Blayne (pictured above) and Blake were accompanied by Santa and delivered musical bears and other stuffed animals, candies and blankets to the patients of the ACE Unit as well as Children's Hospital. While in Galveston, the Ferritta family also visited Shriners' Burns Hospital for Children.



Sealy Center on Aging prepares gift packages for Galveston's elderly

Many elderly residents of Galveston recently received a holiday surprise thanks to the efforts of employees in Geriatrics and the Sealy Center on Aging. Employees distributed gift boxes containing baked goods, blankets, food and other items in colorfully wrapped boxes to 116 senior citizens. Employees hosted a spaghetti luncheon featuring a "pictures with Santa" session to raise almost \$1,800 to pay for the gifts. The annual project started eight years ago with four gift boxes. Physicians, nurse practitioners and social workers nominated the recipients.



Sealy Center on Aging door decorating contest brings out competition

The suspense on the third floor of Jennie Sealy is finally over as winners of the Sealy Center on Aging door decorating contest were announced the week before Christmas. A panel of three judges selected three winners from a field of 10 entries. Pictured in front of Frances Gambino's third place door, which featured a Houston Astros theme, are (front row) Roxana Hirst and Sue Minello, first place; and (back row) Gambino and Judy Howard, second place. Winners received Kroger gift cards.

UTMB PROFESSIONALISM CHARTER

The UTMB Professionalism Charter recently was revised based on feedback from individual employees and students, and from focus groups asked to assess the original version. The goal was to make the document more concise and to ensure that it would apply to everyone at UTMB, regardless of individual roles. As you read through the text of the charter, think about how each of the 12 commitments is relevant to you. These tried-and-true concepts help us define expectations for ourselves and for each other as we build a productive community at our institution.

PREAMBLE

Everyone who works or studies at The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) is a member of a community of professionals dedicated to advancing UTMB's missions of education, research and patient care. Members of the UTMB community, though diverse in culture, educational backgrounds and beliefs, share a common set of professional values that help them remain true to UTMB's historic commitment to the health of Texas. These values, or professional commitments, are outlined in this charter.

Professionalism is the standard of conduct for everyone at UTMB. The foundation for UTMB's culture of professionalism is rooted in the trust placed in those who deliver patient care, conduct research, educate future health care professionals, provide administrative support, maintain a supportive environment and work to master a health discipline.

Each member of the UTMB community has a responsibility to act with integrity, compassion and respect toward one another and those we serve. Honoring this responsibility and being accountable is the essence of professionalism. It is in this spirit that the UTMB Professionalism Charter was developed.

The following professional commitments apply to each member of the UTMB community.

Commitment to professional responsibilities.

Every member of the UTMB community is considered a professional. We respect one another, work collaboratively and carry out our duties at the highest level of quality. We evaluate our contributions to UTMB's mission and performance, and we demonstrate continued competence and growth. We support the remediation of problems and discipline of those who fail to act professionally.

Commitment to service.

Every member of the UTMB community puts the interests of those being served before self-interest. Integrity, compassion and respect characterize this commitment to service.

Commitment to diversity.

Every member of the UTMB community respects differences, honors choices, and works to eliminate discrimination and health disparities. At the most basic level, everyone addresses discrimination when he or she sees or experiences it.

Commitment to professional competence.

Every member of the UTMB community is committed to lifelong learning and is responsible for maintaining the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for high-quality performance.

Commitment to confidentiality.

Every member of the UTMB community safeguards the privacy of personal and sensitive information about patients, families, co-workers, research subjects, students and the institution.

Commitment to honesty.

Every member of the UTMB community values honesty. We are truthful, trustworthy and accountable. We do not cheat, steal, lie or destroy or falsify information. Honesty and accountability also prevail when errors and injuries occur. We promptly admit our mistakes and take corrective actions.

Commitment to the responsible use of resources.

Every member of the UTMB community is a good steward of the resources entrusted to the university. This commitment includes the responsible use of money, equipment, time, space and personnel.

Commitment to improving access to education and health care.

Every member of the UTMB community supports our mission to reduce barriers and promote access to health care services and health sciences education.

Commitment to quality.

Every member of the UTMB community is committed to excellence by providing the best quality of patient care, education, research and administrative support possible. This commitment is met by continuously striving to achieve higher levels of performance. Everyone, individually and through professional organizations, develops and improves measures of quality that promote achievement of optimal outcomes.

Commitment to maintaining appropriate relations.

Every member of the UTMB community avoids using a position of power to unfair advantage, given the inherent vulnerability of individuals who enter into educational, research, employment and therapeutic relationships. Exploitation of any kind is unacceptable, whether for personal or professional gain.

Commitment to managing conflicts of interest.

Every member of the UTMB community recognizes, discloses and addresses issues—whether real or perceived—that compromise institutional loyalty and personal integrity.

Commitment to knowledge.

Every member of the UTMB community promotes ethical conduct in the creation and use of new knowledge that advances health. We are committed to the honest dissemination of our work and the appropriate application of our knowledge.

Second Edition, June 2005. This document has been adapted from Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: A Physician Charter, Annals of Internal Medicine, 2002; 136 (3): 243-246, created by the ABIM Foundation, ACP-ASIM Foundation and European Federation of Internal Medicine under the auspices of the Medical Professionalism Project.

Institute for the Medical Humanities appoints Brody as new director

By Tom Curtis

Dr. Howard Brody, a distinguished professor of family practice, philosophy and ethics, and humanities in the life sciences at Michigan State University, will join UTMB in May as director of the Institute for the Medical Humanities.

Brody will succeed Ronald A. Carson, Harris L. Kempner Distinguished Professor, who directed the IMH from 1982 to 2005 and stepped down earlier this year to pursue scholarly interests. Carson remains on the faculty of IMH and continues to collaborate with colleagues around the world. Professor William Winslade is serving as interim director.

Dr. Valerie Parisi, dean of medicine and chief academic officer and vice president for academic program administration and

services, said that Brody combines the compassion of a family medicine physician and the perspective of a bioethicist.

"I am delighted that Howard Brody has accepted our offer to join UTMB," Parisi said. "Ron Carson shaped and invigorated one of the first medical humanities programs within an academic health center in the nation. Dr. Brody's compassionate, forward-thinking approach to leadership will build on Ron's legacy and take our medical humanities program to the next level."

Brody received his medical degree from the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in 1976 and his Ph.D. in philosophy from MSU in 1977. After completing his residency in family practice at the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville, he returned to MSU, where he is University Distinguished

Professor of Family Practice and Philosophy at the Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences. He served as director of the center from 1985 to 2000.

A prolific writer, Brody is author of numerous books and articles on medical ethics, family medicine and philosophy of medicine. His titles include *The Healer's Power*, *Stories of Sickness and Ethical Decisions in Medicine*. One recent book, *The Placebo Response: How You Can Release the Body's Inner Pharmacy for Better Health*—a self-help guide written for a general audience rather than academics—was a collaborative project with his wife, Daralyn Brody.

Throughout his career, Howard Brody has been actively involved in studying medical ethics, placebo effects and end-of-life treatment issues. He helped to organize

the Medical Ethics Resource Network of Michigan and served as president of its council from 1988 to 1990. He chaired the Task Force on Humanities in Family Medicine Education for the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine from 1981 to 1986 and served as president of the Society for Health and Human Values (now the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities) from 1988 to 1989.

From 1993 to 1994, Brody served as senior scholar in residence for the American Academy of Family Physicians at the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research in Rockville, Md. He also chaired the Michigan Commission on Death and Dying. In 1995, he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Electronic W-2 forms now available for download

UTMB employees who registered to receive their W-2 tax statements electronically can now access them. Employees had until Jan. 8 to register for this web-based service, now in its second year. Those who signed on last year are still registered in the system; with the new registrants, nearly 7,000 are now using UTMB's eW-2.

If you signed up for the service, to receive your statement visit the eW-2 web site at <https://kronosras.utmb.edu/EW-2> and logon using your "utmb-users-m" username and password. You'll be able to view, print and export your W-2 form. If you have questions, many answers, including detailed printing instructions, are available on the HELP page. If you still need assistance, you can speak to a payroll representative by calling (409) 747-7909 or 747-7215.

If you missed the Jan. 8 deadline or opted to not register for the service this year, you will receive a paper copy in the coming weeks, just as in the past. If you are interested in receiving an electronic W-2 next year, there will be an opportunity to sign up for this benefit again late in 2006.

If you have opted to receive your tax statement through this new web service, please remember you will NOT be sent a printed copy. You'll need to print your own W-2 to submit with your tax forms.

Commit to Fit Expo set for Jan. 24

As the New Year begins UTMB wants to help you focus on your health and wellness.

Join us Tuesday, Jan. 24 for the 2006 Commit to Fit Expo. Beginning at noon in Levin Hall, faculty, staff and students can take advantage of free health screenings, visit with vendors, lectures, demos, and a free healthy Grab-n-Go lunch.

Don't miss the free giveaways, and drawings for expo visitors who fill out a brief wellness survey. Below is a schedule of the event highlights:

Commit to Fit Expo

Noon-1:30 p.m.
William C. Levin Hall

Free Grab-n-Go Lunch

Noon-1:30 p.m.
William C. Levin Hall Dining Room

Diabetes Education: "Take Action: What are your goals?"

1-2 p.m.
William C. Levin Hall North Auditorium

'Go Red' and go healthy with your heart

Each year, the American Heart Association sponsors the national Go Red initiative on Feb. 3, encouraging people to wear red as a way to remind themselves about



Meditation Sanctuary

7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
William C. Levin Hall, Room 5.521
Come experience a relaxation session that will leave you feeling refreshed and invigorated. Visit www.utmb.edu/getfit/ for scheduled sessions, or just stop by to unwind from your busy day.

We hope you will be able to take time from your day to attend this important and fun event. Make 2006 the year health and fitness become an important part of your life.

For information about Commit to Fit and the 2006 Expo, visit www.utmb.edu/getfit/ or contact Georgia Leisey at geleisey@utmb.edu or (409) 772-1091.

women's heart health. This year, UTMB is participating with a variety of activities on campus that day.

For starters, everyone is encouraged to wear red and then come out to one of four photo shoots. Photos of employees wearing

their red will be taken at 10 a.m. at the School of Allied Health Sciences lobby; 11:30 a.m. outside in front of John Sealy Hospital main entrance; 1 p.m. on the steps of Old Red and 3 p.m. at Entrance B of the Primary Care Pavilion. These photos will be used in publicity about Go Red Day at UTMB, as well as in various campus communications.

On the healthy side of Go Red, food services will be giving away apples in its dining facilities. There also will be information available at the dining centers about healthy eating choices for your heart and ways you can improve your nutritional health.

Online, you can Go Red with a Daily Announcement quiz. Watch your Daily Announcements for questions regarding heart health and follow the link to the Heart Center web site for the answers. Also, watch in the coming weeks for other exciting announcements from Morrison's regarding their menu choices.

If you haven't had your cholesterol checked lately, the Heart Center will be offering free cholesterol screening at the Primary Care Pavilion all day.

Nicotine patch program full, other options available

The Commit to Quit free patch program booked very quickly and is now full. However, if you promised yourself you'd quit smoking this year, there is no need to wait for another program. The Commit to

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Quit program offers other options to help you kick the habit.

You can join the CTQ program with Annette Wallfish at any time. The program is \$30 plus the cost of any nicotine replacement such as the patch. If you are interested in this option, please feel free to email her at awallfish@earthlink.net

Some departments have covered the cost of nicotine replacement for their employees. You might discuss this with your employer, and the Commit to Quit program can provide any documentation if needed.

The free patch program will be open again for 25 more employees around September. Certainly, if you are ready to quit, we encourage you to do that as soon as possible; however, this program will open for new participants around that time.

The CTQ program includes four private smoking/tobacco cessation sessions with a tobacco treatment specialist. In addition, monthly follow-up contact by phone and follow-up sessions at 3 month, 6 month, and 1 year post quit marks are held.

For information or to register for the Commit to Quit program, contact Emily Riffe at (409) 747-5324.

New UTMB directory offers more functionality

Information Services has introduced a new version of the UTMB directory for employees and users connected to the UTMB network. Displaying more details, the new directory is also editable by employees or their Trusted Requestor.

Updating information in the new directory will not automatically update the information in HRMS. Administrators will still need to submit an FPHO form so that HRMS information matches information in the directory.

Visitors to the public section of UTMB's web site will see a slightly different, non-editable version of the directory for now.

For information, contact Marsha Mullins at (409) 747-3816.

UTMB Hair Studio to celebrate grand opening

The UTMB Hair Studio will have its grand opening celebration at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 24. The Galveston Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting ceremony, and there will be refreshments available. There also will be raffles for hair products and services at the UTMB Hair Studio, which is on the first floor of John Sealy Hospital



Stark Center's Adult Diabetes Education Program earns national recognition

The Stark Diabetes Center Adult Diabetes Education Program recently received the prestigious American Diabetes Association Education Recognition Certificate. The program has been continuously certified since it was originally recognized in 1993.

The Education Recognition Program formally identifies education programs that meet quality standards established by the National Diabetes Advisory Board. Programs that achieve recognition status have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who can provide patients with comprehensive information about diabetes management.

The process gives professionals a national standard by which to measure the quality of services they provide. Meeting these standards requires a team approach to education and involves Certified Diabetes Educators, dietitians, physical therapists and social workers.

in the main hallway.

Health Disparities monthly lecture series continues

The Center for Population Health and Health Disparities and The Center for Elimination of Health Disparities is sponsoring the lecture "Is There a Hispanic Paradox in Biological Risk?"

Dr. Eileen Crimmins, professor of gerontology and demographic research at the University of Southern California, will present the discussion from 4-5 p.m. Jan. 23 in Levin Hall North. A reception will

The continued ADA recognition is an honor to the entire diabetes education team, which includes nurses and certified diabetes educators Sidney Bailey and Sandra Green, registered dietician and certified diabetes educator Lynn Maarouf, and Tracy Cook, a licensed clinical social worker.

The Nelda C. and H.J. Lutzer Stark Diabetes Center is committed to leadership in diabetes care, education and research. The Stark Diabetes Center is supported by a generous grant from the Stark Foundation of Orange, Texas. Strategic objectives of the center are to provide multidisciplinary, state-of-the-art health care to people with diabetes in Southeast Texas; to develop a diabetes education program that not only serves patients in Southeast Texas but throughout the state through telehealth technology; and to foster basic research in diabetes.

follow. The lecture is open to all faculty, staff and students.

Symposium focuses on cardiovascular diseases and sexual dysfunction

Sex and the Heart 2006, the second annual national symposium on the topic of sexual dysfunction in high-risk patients with underlying cardiovascular disease, opens April 1 at the Galveston Island Convention Center.

The symposium focuses on cardiovascular

disorders, treatment and issues of life-style and sexual health. An internationally recognized faculty from major institutions all over the country will provide a broad-based review of the latest scientific data on sexual dysfunction and cardiovascular diseases.

This conference is sponsored by UTMB's Department of Cardiology, and is free to UTMB employees.

Get more information or register for the conference by visiting www.utcm.com.

Osler Club meeting to feature guest lecturer

The John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine invites you to a meeting of the UTMB Osler Club, which is dedicated to the application of Oslerian principles to contemporary medicine and medical education.

The meeting is 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 7 in the Levin Hall Main Auditorium. The dialogue and dinner will feature Dr. Cornelius Granai III, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Brown University, discussing "Snakes, Bugs and Us."

A light buffet supper will be served in the Levin Hall Dinning Room. Admission is free, but space is limited. Reservations are advised.

For reservations, or to register for CME credit, contact Rosemary Lindley at (409) 772-9397 or rmlindle@utmb.edu.

Valentine's Charity Ball to benefit The Residence

The American Medical Women's Association and UTMB Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology are hosting the inaugural Valentine's Charity Ball on Feb. 4 to benefit The Regional Perinatal Residence.

The Residence offers high-risk pregnant women a home away from home, providing them proximity and convenience to UTMB hospitals.

The ball is at the Tremont House Ballroom downtown, and will feature a silent auction, the proceeds of which will raise money for The Residence. Ticket prices are \$40 per person and \$70 per couple. UTMB students can purchase tickets for \$20. Tickets include dinner and wine, with vegetarian and non-alcoholic options available. The cash bar and silent auction will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Black tie optional.

To purchase tickets, contact Katy Arundale

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(409) 747-4980 in the Clinical Sciences Building, Room 335 or the UTMB Office of Student Life (409) 772-1996 in the Jamail Student Center.

Visit www.amwaball.com for more information. For information, contact Amy Walenta at alwalent@utmb.edu.

Academic Resources has new e-brochure

Need information about Academic Resources? Help with a literature search? Letterhead ordering? Scheduling of classrooms? Why not take a moment to review the new e-brochure which describes the variety of services and products available from Academic Resources.

The brochure also includes hours of operation and departmental contacts in a format perfect for quick reference, printing or saving to your desktop. View the brochure at <http://ar.utmb.edu/Ebrochure/Ebrochure.asp>.

Changes made in mileage reimbursement program

The maximum state mileage reimbursement rate for travel from Jan. 1, 2006, to Aug. 31, 2006, has changed to 44.5 cents per mile. This is a decrease from the rate in effect from Oct. 1, 2005, and an increase from the Sept. 1, 2005, rate.

To clarify the reimbursement time periods, the mileage reimbursement rates for state employee mileage incurred during fiscal 2006 are:



The AIDS Clinical Trials Unit participated in World AIDS Day remembrances in December. Pictures from left to right are Jeff Pennock, Lataasha Rabsatt, Bernadette McKinney, Dr. David Paar, associate professor of infectious diseases; Jodean Schmiederer, Ernie Aguilar, Nikki Liburd and Gerianne Casey, a study nurse at the unit. On Feb. 7, the unit will participate in Black AIDS Awareness Day with a special lecture by Dr. Patrice Yarbrough titled "A Focus on Rising HIV Rates among Black Females, ages 14-24." The event is 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Lexin Hall Dining Room. It is free and open to the public. For information, call (409) 747-0202

- Sept. 1-Sept. 30, 2005—40.5 cents per mile
- Oct. 1, 2005-Dec. 31, 2005—48.5 cents per mile
- Jan. 1, 2006-Aug. 31, 2006—44.5 cents per mile

OF NOTE

Dr. Roberto Garofalo, professor of pediatrics and vice chair for research, gave a

lecture at the Biomedicine in the Post-genomic Era Conference, an international academically-organized symposium held at the National Institute of Respiratory Diseases in Mexico City on Dec. 1-3. His presentation was titled "Genomics and Proteomics approaches to Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection."

Garofalo also presented a distinguished lecture on clinical and experimental features of human metapneumovirus infec-

Fund honors memory of respected professor

Dr. Tapan Banerji, a professor of neuroscience and cell biology and 28-year veteran of UTMB, died Dec. 24, 2005.

Friends and colleagues at UTMB have set up a memorial fund in hopes of creating a student fellowship award in his honor. To contribute to this effort, gifts may be sent in honor of Dr. Tapan Banerji to UTMB Office of University Advancement, 301 University Blvd., Galveston, TX 77555-0148.

tion at the Medical School of the Universidad Nacional de Mexico, the oldest academic institution in North America, on Dec. 1.

James D. Kelso, associate director of institutional compliance and privacy officer, passed the board certification exam for Health Law given by the Texas State Board of Legal Specialization. Kelso is one of only 45 attorneys in the state to hold this distinction. The Texas Board of Legal Specialization confers Certificates of Special Competence to attorneys who satisfy stringent experience and knowledge criteria.

Dr. Suzanne M. Peloquin, professor of
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North Carolina at Chapel Hill and served as obstetrician/gynecologist-in-chief at North Carolina Women's Hospital. Parisi chaired the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the State University of New York at Stony Brook from 1994 to 1997.

UTMB President John D. Stobo, who succeeded Dr. Thomas N. James as president in 1997, said the distinguished chair is a well-deserved accolade for Parisi. "This is a tremendous way to recognize Dr. Parisi for the wonderful work she has done and will continue to do at UTMB," Stobo said. "She is a fitting choice for the James Distinguished Chair."

Parisi began her administrative medical career in 1984 as the director of the

Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, where she also directed the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program. The Brooklyn, N.Y., native earned her medical degree as part of the first graduating class of Brown University's medical school in 1975. Parisi completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Women's and Infants' Hospital of Rhode Island, as well as her fellowship training in maternal and fetal medicine at the University of Wisconsin Center for Health Sciences.

Parisi also holds a Master of Public Health degree in maternal and child health from the University of California-Berkeley School of Public Health, and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of North Carolina Kenan-

Flagler School of Business. She is married to Gary Strong, a commercial airline pilot.

James, the inaugural recipient of the distinguished chair bearing his and his wife's name, served as UTMB president from 1987 to 1997. The internationally recognized authority on cardiology practice and research came to the university after spending nearly 20 years on the faculty at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham.

During his tenure as UTMB president, James is credited for strengthening the university's research environment. Key faculty were recruited, a World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Tropical Diseases was established and a leading arbovirus reference center was relocated to UTMB from Yale University.

These accomplishments served as the catalyst for the university's current prestige in infectious diseases research. UTMB is home to the first biosafety level 4 (maximum containment) facility on an academic campus in North America, was named the lead agency for the Western Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and received a \$110 million NIAID grant to construct one of two planned national biocontainment laboratories.

After stepping down as UTMB president, James served as a distinguished faculty member and scientist in the university's Division of Cardiology. James and his wife, Gleaves, currently reside in Birmingham, Ala.

Pat Davis is pictured feeding the fish in the tank he donated in this 2001 file photo.



Volunteer leaves living, swimming legacy

Pat Davis, a longtime volunteer at UTMB's Children's Hospital who donated and maintained aquariums for the hospital classroom and the ICU, recently died. Janis Matthews, director of Child Life and School Services, can attest to how meaningful the fish tanks were to UTMB's young patients.

"The kids can spend a lot of time staring into the tanks, watching fish swim and imagining what it might be like to be in there with them," she said. "It's a great

tool to help them forget for a few minutes that they might be hurting or otherwise ill. Pat's donation really has been wonderful for us, and we'll miss him."

Before his death, Davis asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Child Life Program to support the maintenance of the tanks. Contributions can be sent to UTMB, Child Life Special Account, Janis Matthews, 301 University Blvd., Galveston, TX 77555.

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occupational therapy, delivered the Art Dilly Lecture on Nov. 12 on the occasion of the Mountain Central Conference sponsored by the Texas Occupational Therapy Association. The title of the lecture was "Embracing our ethos, reclaiming our heart," a reprise of the prestigious Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecture that she delivered to the American Occupational Therapy Association's National Conference in May 2005.

Angela Tabaracci, senior infection control professional in Healthcare Epidemiology, recently was elected to the Board of Directors for the Texas Society of Infection Control Practitioners (TSICP). Tabaracci has been in the infection control profession for 20 years and will celebrate 30 years at UTMB in June.

Dr. Joseph B. Zwischenberger recently was featured on a segment of *Mystery Diagnosis* on the Discovery Health Channel. The title of the program was "A Puff of Smoke." *Mystery Diagnosis* generally features three separate stories

per segment. The segment featuring Zwischenberger tells the story of a patient with a 10-pound lung tumor. A film crew from True Entertainment filmed the approximately 20-minute segment in late August and early September.

Dr. Kristin Williams, assistant professor of neurology, and **Scott Greene**, a research associate in neurology, presented a case poster at the 16th International Symposium on ALS/MND in Dublin.

The poster, titled "Primary Progressive Aphasia with Motor Neurone Disease: Early Alterations in Artistic Ability—A Case Presentation," was co-authored by **Dr. Sandra Kuniyoshi**, assistant professor of neurology, and **Russell Rigsby**, research associate in neurology.

The International Symposium on ALS/MND is an annual event that brings together leading international researchers and health and social care professionals to present and debate key innovations in their respective fields with regard to motor neurone disease (MND) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

UTMB IMPACT

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