

## CALENDAR

### Town meeting

Join us for the next UTMB Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 20. For more information, visit [www2.utmb.edu/townmeeting](http://www2.utmb.edu/townmeeting).

### Employment Office to move

UTMB's Employment Office at 1700 Strand will move on March 26 to Gulf Coast Careers, 47th St. and Broadway at the Island Community Center.

The move coincides with a name change. The UTMB Employment Office will now be known as the UTMB Recruitment Office. The changes are part of a larger movement in the industry to transform traditional hiring practices, said Michelle Baehl, director of recruitment for UTMB.

"The new philosophy in recruiting is a more proactive approach," said Baehl. "No longer are we placing an ad and waiting for applicants. We are actively pursuing candidates based on our needs."

Under the newly formed agreement, Gulf Coast Careers will handle the applicant pre-screening and referral process.

"By transferring some of the hiring processes, we are able to concentrate more on recruitment, and on providing specialized services to our applicants," said Baehl.

For more information, contact the UTMB Recruitment Office at ext. 77960.

### Work School

The annual Work-School program's graduation celebration will be held on May 16 from 5:15-7 p.m. in Levin Hall. The celebration honors Work-School participants who graduated August and December 2000 and who will graduate in May, 2001.

All new and past graduates of the UTMB Work School Programs and the department heads and supervisors who supported them will be invited to the celebration honoring the newest graduates.

### Transit system

Beginning April 2, UTMB and the City of Galveston will introduce UTMB patients, employees, students and visitors to a new and improved way to travel on the island.

Working with the city, we are replacing the old campus transit system, the Island Transit CART, with new routes and buses.

Employees and students who show their UTMB badges, and patients who show proof of clinic appointments, will all ride for free.

UTMB employees and students can also ride for free on campus or to off-campus locations, such as 1902 Harborside, Shearn Moody Plaza, restaurants, shops, the Strand and the seawall, via the bus or trolley.

Buses run Monday through Saturday from 6:05 a.m.-11:30 p.m. and Sundays from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. A map with times and routes will be available on buses, at the UTMB parking office, and for download from the iUTMB web site.

# IMPACT

**UTMB** THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON

## African-American History Month

Throughout the month of February, UTMB celebrated African American History Month with a variety



of cultural, educational, health-related, social and historical events. Sponsored by the UTMB Affiliates Action Office and the university's Office of Education Outreach, the events bring awareness to the progress, richness and diversity of African American achievement.

Photos on pages 4-



## UTMB's ICUs ranked among nation's top 100

UTMB was named as one of 100 Top Hospitals for Intensive Care Units in an independent study recently released by the Solucient Partnership Institute. It was the only teaching hospital in Texas to receive the distinction. Dr. Karen Sexton, UTMB's chief operating officer, accepted the award on behalf of the university at a conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., in February.

The study also showed that U.S. health care industry could save an estimated \$1 billion and that more than 130,000 deaths could potentially be avoided annually if all ICUs operated at the same levels as the top-performing ICUs in both teaching and community hospitals.

"There is a difference between top-performing hospitals and others," said Jean Noweth, executive director of the Solucient Partnership Institute. "This study documents improvements that can be made to really increase the survival rates of patients treated in ICUs."

ICUs on page 2

# IMPACT

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

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## Submissions

The deadlines for submissions to be considered for the Calendar, People and Briefs sections of the March 26 Impact is noon, March 16. Submissions should not be more than 100 words for Briefs or 75 words for People items.

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.

## ON CAMPUS

PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS

# Medical students sweat out residency assignments

By Alicia Simmons

The day is almost here when UTMB senior medical students will learn where they will spend the next three to seven years of their lives. At precisely 11 a.m., Thursday, March 22, at an annual ritual known as Match Day, members of the graduating medical school class will learn their futures.

Match Day is a national event that links graduating medical students to training positions at teaching hospitals across the

country. Earlier this year, students picked which residency programs they wanted to join, listing them in order of preference. Officials of each program, meanwhile, listed their picks of students. Then a computer operated by the National Resident Matching Program matched up the two lists.

On Match Day, the suspense will end. All across the United States, at noon Eastern Standard Time seniors will receive a sealed envelope containing a Match Day letter.

This letter tells each senior where he or she has been accepted as a medical resident and where the next stage of life will unfold. Some will stay at UTMB; others will depart for new locations. Of the 197 UTMB medical students who participated in last year's Resident Matching Program, 87 percent were placed in their first, second or third residency choices—compared to a national average of 80.5 percent. Of the many steps to becoming a licensed doctor, residency is the last and among the most important.

## Future labs



School of Medicine students Sharon Fuentes-Black (left) and Leigh Hudnall stand at the future site of seven laboratories in the Marvin Graves Building. The Program for Innovation in Education, an initiative to fortify the educational infrastructure throughout the UTMB campus, is funding the construction of these laboratories. Black and Hudnall are members of the SOM Class of 2002, which recently gave a matched \$300 gift to the initiative. The laboratories will be used as part of the Integrated Medical Curriculum, an educational plan that grounds medical students not only in clinical experience but also in a more thorough scientific background. Black is a former IMC student representative, and Hudnall is president of the SOM Class of 2002.

## ICUs, from page 1

The study, "100 Top Hospitals: ICU Benchmarks for Success," included data from 1,200 hospitals with ICUs and is one of the first comparative analyses of ICU performance among the nation's hospitals.

**In the next issue: More information on UTMB's award and some of the health care professionals who brought us this distinction.**



## Mosquito man

UTMB's Gregory Lanzaro, associate professor of pathology, left, organized and recently helped lead a two-week workshop entitled "Population genomics of *Anopheles gambiae*" at the Malaria Research and Training Center, National School of Medicine, Bamako, Mali. The workshop included lectures, laboratory exercises, review of computer software for data analysis and roundtable discussions. Topics dealt broadly with molecular genetics of *Anopheles gambiae*, the species of mosquito that is the main vector responsible for spreading malaria in Africa. Specific topics included population genetics, DNA fingerprinting, quantitative trait loci mapping, linkage mapping and insecticide resistance. There were 19 participants from Mali, Kenya, Cameroon, Nigeria and Tanzania. All were vector biologists, including both senior researchers and students. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation largely funded the workshop. In addition to Lanzaro, the instructors included Drs. William Black and Nancy Duteau from the Microbiology Department at Colorado State University and Dr. Doug Norris from the Microbiology Department at Johns Hopkins University.

## ON CAMPUS

PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS



High-energy celebrants came out in astronomical numbers for the 2001 San Luis Mardi Gras gala "Galaxy of the Stars." Chairs Tilman Fertitta, chairman and chief executive officer of Landry's Seafood Restaurants, Inc. and his wife, Paige, check out Mardi Gras beads with UTMB President John D. Stobo and Dr. Joan Richardson. Proceeds from the star-studded extravaganza benefited the Newborn Nurseries and Infant Special Care Unit at UTMB.

### PEOPLE

Dr. Abbey Berenson (Obstetrics and Gynecology) has been named president-elect of the Central Association of



Obstetricians and Gynecologists. This organization promotes research and education in the field of women's health care. Its membership consists of more than 1,000 obstetricians and gynecologists. Berenson will serve as president-elect of the association until 2002, when she will become president. Berenson has been a member of the UTMB faculty since 1989. Currently, she is chief of the Division of

Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology and medical director of family planning. She has authored or co-authored more than 70 manuscripts and is recognized nationally for her research in the morphology of the external genitalia in prepubertal girls, as well as her studies on contraception.

Emilia Vela Papavasiliou (Geriatrics Service Line) recently presented a Resource Exchange at the 27th Annual Educational Leadership conference of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, San Jose, Calif.: "Connections: Ethnicity, Community and our Past: Reminiscence in a Culturally Sensitive Environment."

### EVENTS

#### TexMed 2001 on May 3-5 in Houston

The Texas Medical Association's annual meeting, TexMed 2001: A Medical Odyssey, will be from May 3-5 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. The keynote speakers will be:

- Joseph D. McInerney, who will discuss genetics for health care professionals at the opening general session on Thursday from 3-4 p.m.

## Vanderpool to chair panel on animal-to-human transplants

By Tom Curtis

UTMB Professor Harold Y. Vanderpool has been appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to a four-year term as chairman of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Xenotransplantation—transplanting living animal cells, tissues and organs into human beings.

Vanderpool, professor in the history and philosophy of medicine at the Institute for the Medical Humanities at UTMB, chaired his first meeting of the 18-member committee Feb. 20-21 in Rockville, Md. He holds a doctorate in American and religious studies from Harvard University, as well as a master's degree in bioethics and the history of medicine. He is a nationally and internationally recognized



Vanderpool

authority on the ethics and regulation of research involving human subjects, including ethical and social issues related to xenotransplantation. He previously served as a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Xenotransplantation, as well as a member of the Xenotransplantation Subcommittee of the Food and Drug Administration's Biologic Response Modifiers Advisory Committee.

"Xenotransplantation offers the promise of alleviating the dire and ever-increasing shortage of human organ transplants and of providing medical therapy for patients with serious illnesses such as diabetes and Parkinson's disease," Vanderpool noted. "But xenotransplantation also poses a risk of spreading infectious disease and even creating a new infectious epidemic."

Vanderpool continued: "I and each member of the committee feel a very deep responsibility to the public and to the medical community to carefully weigh the difficult and complex issues raised by xenotransplantation." Because Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and to the media, he continued, "this committee can serve as an important forum for public information and education."

The Advisory Committee is responsible for offering advice and recommendations to the Secretary of HHS and to other federal agencies and departments. According to its charter, the committee is expected to consider "the full range of complex scientific, medical, social and ethical issues and the public health concerns raised by xenotransplantation, including ongoing and proposed protocols." Its functions are to:

- advise the Department of HHS on the current state of knowledge regarding xenotransplantation;
- review current and proposed xenotransplantation clinical trials. Identify and discuss the medical, scientific, ethical, legal, and/or socioeconomic issues raised by these clinical trials;
- advise the department on the potential for transmission of infectious diseases as a consequence of xenotransplantation;
- recommend to the department, as needed, changes to the Public Health Service guidelines on infectious disease issues in xenotransplantation; and
- discuss additional scientific, medical, public health, ethical, legal and socioeconomic issues, including international policies and developments, that are relevant to xenotransplantation.

- Apollo 13 Flight Director Gene Kranz, who will tell his story about the power of trust and leadership on Thursday from 4-5 p.m.
- Dr. Elizabeth Heitman, who will have an ethics presentation on Texas advance directives on Saturday from 8-9 a.m. There also will be 150 hours of AMA PRA Category 1 CME credit at TexMed 2001, free to TMA members.

For more information or to request the TexMed 2001 Advance Program, contact Kim Koschemann, TMA Conference Management, at (800) 880-1300, ext. 1410, or (512) 370-1410, or kim.koschemann@texmed.org. You can also visit the TexMed 2001 Web site at [virtual.texmed.org](http://virtual.texmed.org) for the latest information and to register online.

#### Ninth annual Science Forum

The Sealy Center for Molecular Science is hosting its ninth annual Science Forum on March 28. The keynote speaker for this year is Dr. Peter Geiduschek, from the Department of Biology, University of California, San Diego. His seminar, "Transcription by RNA polymerase III", will be at 11 a.m. on

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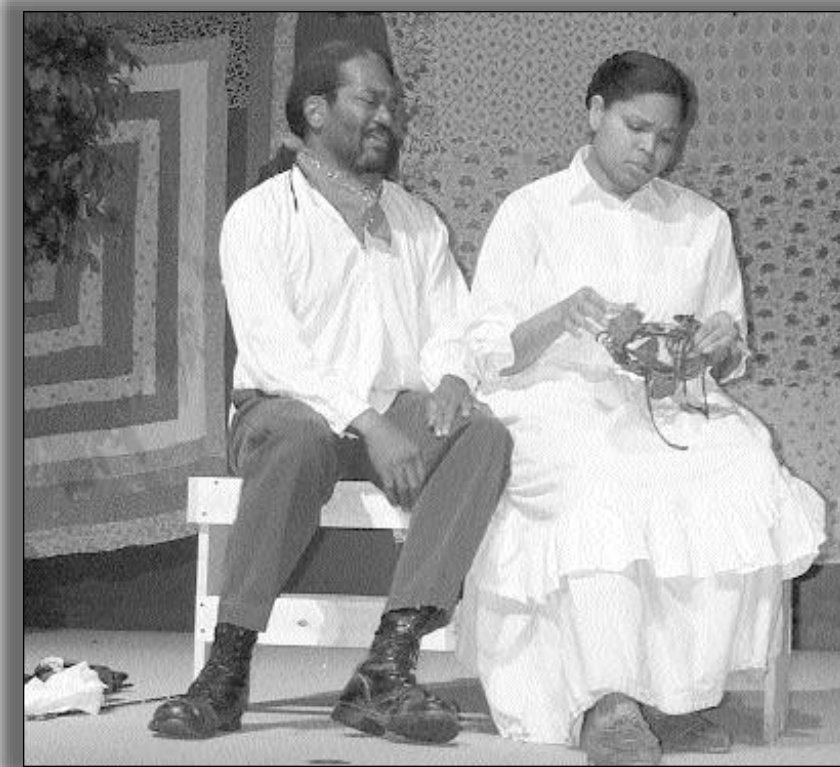


UTMB patient Taylor Hall Jr., better known on the Texas rodeo circuit as Bailey's Prairie Kid, shows the belt buckle and jacket he received for being named to the Texas Rodeo Hall of Fame to Christina Jones, RN, in a university clinic March 2. Hall is the first African American to ever receive the honor, which he was awarded Feb. 10 in Belton, Texas. Hall retired from rodeo after 38 years, with four first-place events during his career.

# HERITAGE



The La Marque Middle School band energized the audience with several melodic tunes.



Houston-based theatrical troop Talking Back Living History performed four historical vignettes, including excerpts from the hit musical "I Am Annie Mae."



Above: The annual observance of African American History Month kicked off with a wine and cheese reception and the opening of the February art exhibit at Moody Medical Library. Right Photo: Tino Gonzalez with UTMB's Office of Educational Outreach, right, is pictured with Ted Ellis and Juanita Cole Howard, featured artists at the exhibit.



## RESEARCH

By John Tyler

# UTMB receives renewed funding from NIH to study hepatitis C virus

UTMB has received renewed funding for its Hepatitis C Research Center from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), joining five other academic institutions in the United States as leaders in the war against the virus.

Receiving \$5 million over the next five years, UTMB researchers will continue working with the multidisciplinary coalition to examine the acute and chronic infection caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV).

In addition to renewing UTMB's funding, the NIH has expanded its HCV initiative to two new centers. Previously, UTMB was one of only four institutions funded as part of the consortium, which was started in 1996 by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). NIH has now added the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis and the Children's Research Institute at Ohio State University in Columbus. Formerly the coalition was comprised of UTMB, Stanford University, the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and the University of Washington in Seattle.

"We are pleased to continue supporting this important cross-cutting research on hepatitis C infection, which remains a significant emerging infectious disease worldwide and one that disproportionately affects minorities in this country," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the NIAID. "Over the years these centers have yielded many important findings, and we hope to build on those accomplishments and explore new therapeutic and vaccine strategies."

UTMB's Hepatitis C Research Center benefits from heavy collaboration with the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio. The foundation's Dr. Robert Lanford works with the non-human primates that are susceptible to HCV and in which the disease mimics the course of the infection in humans. UTMB researchers also work in tandem with Dr. David Thomas at Johns Hopkins University, who is looking at HCV infection among inner-city, African American drug users. African Americans are of particular interest to HCV researchers because they generally respond poorly to standard therapies.

"The work we are doing should greatly help us set up systems to discover new drugs," said Dr. Stanley Lemon, UTMB's dean of medicine and director of the Hepatitis C Research Center at

Galveston. "Already in the past six months there are reports for the first time of very effective anti-viral lead compounds with specific activity against hepatitis C virus. While there are still a lot of problems to be worked out with the pharmacology and toxicology, we have fresh hope for new and more effective therapies now."

Lemon said he feels the impact of anti-viral therapies on the AIDS epidemic will be mirrored in the fight against HCV. He anticipates science will move from non-specific interferon therapy to a new era of more specific anti-viral therapy for hepatitis C.

HCV, first identified little more than a decade ago, is now estimated to infect about 3 percent of the world's population, including nearly four million Americans, according to the NIH. It is spread primarily through contact with infected blood. The virus damages the liver slowly, often without any symptoms. In fact, many people infected with HCV can remain unaware of it for decades. If not treated, it can result in devastating liver damage, causing nearly 10,000 deaths and leading to about 1,000 liver transplants each year in this country alone.

"You have an incredibly prevalent, serious disease that is already leading to increases in liver cancer in the United States—and will lead to even bigger increases if we don't do something about it," Lemon said. "Hepatitis C has very interesting science behind it. It is just a wonderful area to work in because we can really benefit human health, while at the same time, pursue good science."

Several UTMB investigators, in addition to Lemon, are getting an opportunity to enjoy some of that "good science." Dr. Daryl Lau of internal medicine and Dr. David Gorenstein, professor of human biological chemistry and genetics, are both studying the disease and the virus that causes it at UTMB.

Dr. Tehsheng Chan, professor of microbiology and immunology, is working on the development of transgenic mice (mice engineered with viral genes for research) as a model for HCV. Dr. Steve Weinman, associate professor of physiology and biophysics, uses these mice to study the effects of alcohol abuse on those suffering with the disease.

"I think Steve Weinman's recent work—looking at oxidative stress resulting from the expression of the core protein in hepatitis C—is outstanding," Lemon said, referring to how researchers now think the virus causes non-specific damage to liver cells, using the same pathways that alcohol uses to injure the liver. "It is attracting a lot of attention, and I think it is pointing us toward how this virus causes disease, including cancer of the liver."

As the center moves into its next five years, Lemon said he would like to see it continue working to develop new drugs and partner with industry. "A number of faculty from different departments on campus are working together to build a truly interdisciplinary program of research on hepatitis C," Lemon said. "It is a great opportunity for the university, and for improvements in the care of patients with hepatitis C as well."



Dr. Steve Weinman

## ON CAMPUS

### PEOPLE, NEWS AND EVENTS

#### EVENTS, from page 3

Wednesday, March 28, in Levin Hall South Auditorium. Geiduschek has been a pioneer in the field of gene regulation and transcription, and he has made seminal contributions to the understanding of transcriptional mechanisms in prokaryotic and eukaryotic systems. He has won numerous awards and honors, and he is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A reception following the lecture will be held in Levin Hall Dining Room. For more information, please contact Jeannie Rice at ext. 21253.

#### Aerospace Medicine Residency golf tourney

The Preventive Medicine Residencies Program at UTMB is hosting its first annual golf tournament for the Aerospace Medicine Residency Program. "Celebrating Excellence in Aerospace Medicine" will be held April 6 at the Clear Lake Golf Club, 1202 Reseda Drive, Houston.

Honorary chairman for the event is Dr. Joseph Kerwin, Skylab Astronaut. Registration and continental breakfast will be provided at 7 a.m. Tee-off is at 8 a.m., followed by an awards luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Entry fees for the event are at two levels: Team Sponsor (\$400), which includes four players on a team and four tickets to the awards luncheon, or Individual Golfer (\$100), which provides one participant on an arranged team and one ticket to the awards luncheon.

The Aerospace Medicine Residency program provides the necessary training to provide health care to diverse populations in the performance environments of aviation and space. This includes crewmembers exposed to these environments, passengers, support personnel and dependent family members that need comprehensive primary care.

UTMB receives a large number of requests from residents seeking aerospace medicine training; however, growth and some training opportunities are limited by the lack of available funds. The proceeds of this event will increase the funds now available for aerospace medicine residents.

To participate, please call ext. 75350 or email [Tbellow@utmb.edu](mailto:Tbellow@utmb.edu).

#### Student Research Forum

The National Student Research Forum (NSRF) will be April 5-7. The keynote speaker will be Dr. George Weinstock, professor and co-director of the Human Genome Sequencing Center, Department of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine. His talk, "The Genomics Revolution in Research: From Microbes to Man," will be Thursday, April 5 at 4 p.m. in William C. Levin Hall main auditorium, with a reception to follow.

The NSRF, now in its 42nd year, originated here in 1959-60 and has been held annually since that time. It is a national meeting that is planned and organized by students for the presentation of student research. It provides an opportunity for young health scientists to receive meaningful and pertinent discussion of their research efforts by their peers and by established scientists in an atmosphere encouraging the highest scientific standards. The program recognizes excellence in research by means of awards, based on the judgment of a panel of UTMB medical scientists who are selected to review abstracts and manuscripts, and evaluate the actual presentation. This year, participants include those from Canada and The Republic of Georgia.

The forum is open to all faculty, staff and students. Oral presentations will be given throughout the day on Thursday,

#### Hallway guide

Tommy Fields of the UTMB Radiology Department walks patient Angela McLeod through the construction taking place on the

second floor of the University Hospital Clinics. Fields has taken on the role as a full-time guide for patients and coordinator of patient care areas in radiology during the construction, which should continue through May. He makes sure patients do not get lost when moving around in the maze of

hallways and rooms that is made even more confusing by the construction. He also ensures patients arrive on time for their necessary procedures. This service helps ease patients' fears and makes them feel more comfortable during their visit to the university.

Dr. Leonard E. Swischuk, professor of radiology, said Field's exceptional attitude and commitment to UTMB and its patients has completely transformed the department's environment. "The department changed overnight when he started doing this for us," he said. "Tommy has done such a great job we plan to keep him in this role after construction is completed. He is totally devoted to UTMB. And, he has not only made life easier for our patients, but also the radiology staff. We don't need to worry about patients are getting lost."

Fields estimates he sees between 50 and 100 patients each day. "Numerous patients have stated their pleasure with this timely service and have specifically said that they were not given such treatment at places like Ben Taub or St. Luke's," Fields said. "I love doing this for our patients and UTMB."



April 4 and again on Friday, April 6.

The Poster Session will be held on Friday afternoon from 2-4 p.m. Questions regarding the forum should be e-mailed to [nsrf@utmb.edu](mailto:nsrf@utmb.edu).

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

##### ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUPS

- When: Second Tuesday. Noon-1 p.m.
- Where: Trinity Episcopal Church, 22nd and Winnie.
- Contact: Ramona B. Mason, (409) 948-0368 or (409) 948-8862, or Elicia Dunn, ext. 71629.
- When: First Wednesday. Noon-1 p.m.
- Where: Suite 2.222, Primary Care Pavilion.
- Contact: Leah Fanuiel, ext. 22169 or Linda Coleman, ext. 79136.

- When: Third Wednesday. 12:15-1:15 p.m.
- Where: Danforth Gardens, Texas City.
- Contact: Ramona B. Mason, (409) 948-0368 or (409) 948-8862, or Theresa Webb at (409) 949-9499.

- When: Fourth Monday. 7:30-9 p.m.
- Where: St. John West Classroom at St. John Hospital in Nassau Bay.
- Contact: Nancy Malley, (218) 212-5894 or St. John Hospital, (218) 333-5503.

##### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

- Purpose: For family and friends who are coping with the death of a loved one. The group offers emotional support and an opportunity to talk about the dying process.
- When: Second and fourth Thursdays. 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Where: Primary Care Pavilion, Entrance B, Suite 124.
- Contact: Sandra Linton, ext. 20054, or Ramona B. Mason, (409) 948-0368 or (409) 948-8862.

##### BETTER BREATHERS SUPPORT GROUP

- Purpose: Fellowship and support for people who are breathing impaired and their families. Health care professionals and others share information on how to manage the symptoms and consequences of lung disease.
- When: First Tuesday, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- Where: Galveston County Senior Citizen's Center, 2201 Ave. L, Galveston.

- When: Second Tuesday, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- Where: Family Health Care Center, 9300 Emmett Lowry Expressway, Texas City.

- Contact: Sue Johnson or Jerri Worthen in Pulmonary Care Services, ext. 22809.

##### CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP

- Purpose: To provide information and support for cardiac patients and their families and friends.
- When: Third Monday of every month.
- Where: Edgewater Retirement Center, Moody House Auditorium.
- Contact: Michelle M. Bennett, ext. 72377.

##### CARING FOR THE OLDER ADULT SUPPORT GROUP

- Purpose: To maintain emotional and physical well-being through support and access to resources.
- When: Second Tuesday. 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Where: Primary Care Pavilion, Entrance B, Suite 124.
- Contact: Sandra Linton, ext. 20054, or Lisa Bellard, ext. 23412.

##### EATING DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP

- Purpose: A weekly confidential support group for people who have eating disorders.
- When: Tuesdays. 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- Where: Bethel Hall Conference Room.
- Contact: Employee Assistance Program, ext. 22485, or fax ext. 74289. E-mail: [Annette.Martinez@utmb.edu](mailto:Annette.Martinez@utmb.edu)

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## UTMB IN THE NEWS

### Newspapers

Dr. James Goodwin, director of UTMB's Sealy Center on Aging, is quoted in a Jan. 23 New York Times article about how some doctors fail to discuss lumpectomy as an option for women facing breast cancer surgery.



Goodwin

In a Jan. 2 New York Times article about how studying art enhances medical students' observation skills, Mary G. Winkler, who recently retired from UTMB's Institute for the Medical Humanities, is quoted as saying that a visual arts curriculum offers students "another avenue for arriving at some sort of sympathy or empathy."

Dr. Stanley Lemon, dean of UTMB's School of Medicine, is interviewed in two articles about the resurgence of boot-camp illnesses among U.S. military troops since production on the adenovirus vaccine was stopped. According to the newspaper reports, the "nasty cold bug" killed four disabled Iowa children in the fall of 2000 and has sickened thousands of service men and women. Lemon led a study of the military's problems with adenoviruses. (Des Moines Register, Jan. 21).

Dr. Courtney Townsend Jr., the John Woods Harris Distinguished Chairman of UTMB's Department of Surgery, was selected as editor of the oldest continuously published book on

the subject of surgery. He is only the fourth editor of the textbook, now in its 16th edition (Galveston Fax, Jan. 18; Galveston County Daily News, Jan. 22; Houston Chronicle, Jan. 30).

In an article focusing on a woman who paints ceramics at a local ceramics gallery, Loree Primeau, chair of UTMB's occupational therapy program, was interviewed about the mental, physical and emotional benefits of occupational therapy (Galveston County Daily News, Jan 21).

### Newspaper/television

Stories about UTMB's robotic surgery program appeared in both print and broadcast media during January:

- KHOU-Houston (Channel 11) ran a story about a stomach surgery on a Vietnam War veteran "performed in a way never done before in the entire Southwest." Drs. Guillermo Gomez and Courtney Townsend Jr. were interviewed about the procedure (Jan. 2; Jan. 3 online posting).
- UTMB made history when surgeons performed a hysterectomy using the technology of computer-enhanced robotic surgery. The advantages to this type of surgery are similar to traditional laparoscopy—smaller incisions, faster recovery time, reduced pain and reduced risk for post-surgical infections. Dr. Roger B. Yandell, one of the surgeons who performed the procedure, was interviewed (Galveston County Daily News, Jan. 22). The story also aired on KHOU-Houston (Channel 11).

### Magazine

Dr. Charles Christiansen, dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences, is interviewed about a research initiative he has led to determine how effective virtual reality tools can be in assessing the extent of traumatic brain injury and in providing environments where patients can relearn basic living skills (Computer Graphics World, January 2001).

Dr. Jason Calhoun and UTMB's correctional managed care program are featured in an article about the nation's larger university telemedicine programs. Calhoun is chair of UTMB's Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation. (The Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 12 print edition; Jan. 15, online).

UTMB is ranked second, behind Methodist Hospital, in the listing of largest Houston-area hospitals (ranked by number of operating beds) and eighth among the largest hospital systems in the Houston area (ranked by number of licensed beds) (Houston Business Journal 2001 Book of Lists).

In Health Care Houston: 2001 Guide to the Health Care Industry, UTMB is featured in several articles, including those on Children's Hospital, genetic research conducted by Dr. Satya Prakash and his research team, and the new technologies being licensed by the Technology Management Office.

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# IMPACT

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### ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

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

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