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[**Weekly Relays User Guide**](https://ispace.utmb.edu/xythoswfs/webview/_xy-12470404_1)

**TOPICS LEGEND**

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| C:\Users\krhensle\Desktop\SMALL LOGO (2).jpg | | WEEKLY RELAYS | | **Feb. 2, 2017** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| **OCE**  The Rising 4th Year Meeting was recently held in Austin, Texas on January 31, 2017 by the Office of Clinical Education.  Students learned about requirements and opportunities for their senior year of medical school.  The Rising 4th Year meeting for Galveston students will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017 in Levin Hall at the UTMB Galveston campus.  Slides from these prensetations will be made available to faculty advisors via the Blackboard advisor site. | | | **Innovations in Mind faculty and staff campaign begins:**  As part of UTMB’s $50 million Innovations in Mind fundraising initiative, UTMB is welcoming all faculty and staff—members of the UTMB family—to make a personal contribution to the university. The initiative has four funding priorities:   * Raising $22.6 million of the $90.4 million cost for the new Health Education Center * Supporting student scholarships * Establishing faculty endowments * Investing in UTMB’s pioneering neurodegenerative disorders research   This an opportunity for every employee to support UTMB’s future and reinforce UTMB’s commitment to innovation.  Visit <https://innovationsinmind.utmb.edu/employee> to learn more and make your gift.  **Merit pay increases:**  Merit pay increases for FY17 have been approved by UTMB’s executive leadership team and will be awarded in March to eligible employees in a Classified, Non-Teaching or A&P position. Merit pay for Correctional Managed Care employees and Faculty members is handled separately through the Texas Department of Criminal Justice budget and Faculty Compensation and Incentive Plan. The university’s merit pay program is an important part of our total compensation strategy, and these increases are intended to recognize and reward employees for meeting or exceeding performance expectations. Total merit pools are determined by market trends, economic conditions and available funding, and employees must meet several criteria to be considered for an increase. See [iUTMB](http://intranet.utmb.edu/iutmb/) for more details.  **UT System statement on statewide hiring freeze:**  Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced a statewide hiring freeze during his State of the State address on Jan. 31. According to a statement from the University of Texas System, the Governor’s call for a hiring freeze on state-funded positions will affect UT System administration and UT campuses. It is important to note that UT campuses have a wide variety of funding sources, and the impact of the freeze will vary from campus to campus. Based on UTMB’s total revenue, state funding represented 18.5 percent of our budget in FY16. UT System officials are meeting with the Governor’s Office soon to clarify specifics. We will share additional information as soon as it becomes available.  **John Sealy Hospital fire recovery:** (see next page) | |
| TOPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **UTMB NEWS** (continued)  **John Sealy Hospital fire recovery:**  Cleanup and recovery operations continue at John Sealy Hospital on the Galveston Campus following the fire on Jan. 4. Here’s an update on the recovery efforts to date:   * Major cleaning of all areas in John Sealy Hospital will be completed by Feb. 4. * The first floor will be opened to pedestrian access on Feb. 6, but all upper floors will remain closed to pedestrians and to patient care. * Assessment, repair and re-certification of all floors (other than Level 2) will be completed by Feb. 28. They will be ready to re-occupy on March 1, and Health System is working on a detailed plan for that. * Repair and assessment of the second floor is underway, but it’s expected to take six months to complete repairs to that floor. * UTMB personnel continue to work with insurance teams to track our repair and business loss expenses for reimbursement.   For more information on the John Sealy Hospital fire recovery, please visit [www.utmb.edu/recovery](https://www.utmb.edu/recovery).  **Best Care Lunch & Learn:**  The next Best Care Lunch & Learn will be held Feb. 8 at noon in Levin Hall Dining Room. The topic is “Reducing Length of Stay and the Patient Resource Optimization Program” with Deb McGrew, vice president and chief operating officer of the Health System. Sessions are streamed live online and are video recorded. Find more information at [http://intranet.utmb.edu/best-care](http://intranet.utmb.edu/best-care/default.asp).  **Annual TB screening:**  The deadline for all health care workers to complete their annual tuberculosis (TB) screening for FY17 is May 31. Annual screenings are a condition of continued employment for anyone who provides direct patient care, enters patient rooms and/or comes within six feet of patients in the course of his or her duties. (IHOP Policy 8.1.2: <https://utmb.us/1f>)  To assist with this requirement, TB testing will be offered:   * Angleton Danbury Campus Hospital – Feb. 14 and 16 * Jennie Sealy Hospital – Feb. 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27 *and* March 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27 * League City Campus Hospital – March 7, 8, 9 and 10     Please note that TB testing for CMC is handled separately. See <https://hr.utmb.edu/ehc/tb/> for more details about TB testing opportunities and health care worker requirements. | | | **January 2017 Epic optimizations:**  Visit [intranet.utmb.edu/emr](http://intranet.utmb.edu/emr) for a list of new ambulatory/inpatient workflows. Last month, the following were added/updated: charge capture for critical care, consult notes, documenting medication administration, managing patient calls, MyChart – Viewing patient questionnaire, screening for Hep-C, and Weblink: GoodRx (enables providers to search for the lowest cost of a medication).    **Congratulations:**  Dr. Chris Fry, assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition and Metabolism in UTMB's School of Health Professions, will be honored with the 2017 New Investigator Award from the American Physiological Society Section on Environmental and Exercise Physiology at its Experimental Biology Meeting in April. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**  Turnover rates at UTMB—for staff, faculty and nursing employees—are considered exceptional compared to the national average. For instance, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, the average turnover rate nationally for education and health services industries staff was 31.2 percent while UTMB’s was just 16.5 percent. At the faculty level, the turnover rate at UTMB in 2016 was 7.9 percent. Faculty turnover rates less than 20 percent are considered excellent. Finally, the average nursing turnover rate nationally in 2016 was 23.6 percent, compared to 12.6 percent at UTMB. | |