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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 | | **Oct. 6, 2016** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| **IMO**  IMO would like to welcome Lisa Pierce as a Course Coordinator 1.  In her new role, Lisa will oversee labs in the IMC.  The first AIR (Assessment, Integration and Reflection) week went well in the SEACHange curriculum and  RFE completed their NBME customized midterm, doing well above the National mean for the test items.  Congrats to Chris Rhodes, Barbara Matthews and the rest of the IMO team for all their hard work.  **OCE**  UTMB’s annual Teachers of Distinction (Top Doc) Awards Ceremony was held on Oct. 8, 2016 at the Moody Gardens Convention Center.  Nine of the UTMB Top Docs for 2016 came to the event with their families to help celebrate their awards with us.  Everyone had a good time and the winners seemed very appreciative that UTMB faculty and staff were there to recognize their teaching contributions to UTMB.  The Office of Clinical Education would like to thank everyone that came to the event to help us congratulate this year’s Top Doc winners.  [Please visit this website](https://som.utmb.edu/Educational_Affairs/OCE/TopDocList.asp) to see a list of this year’s “UTMB Teachers of Distinction”.  **Holiday Party Announcement**  Dr. Rowen will host a holiday party at her beach house this December. We need a party planning committee to work on the details, so if you’re interested please contact Nancy Tovar. | | | **Support the 2016 SECC:**  UTMB’s 2016 State Employee Charitable Campaign begins Oct. 7 and runs through Nov. 14. Given the season, the campaign—which sports a zombie-inspired theme—is a great opportunity to help improve the quality of life for people in need and causes worth supporting. Dr. James Graham, associate professor in the School of Health Professions, will lead the effort to raise at least $525,000. SECC allows employees to decide what and who they support, selecting from hundreds of local, national and international charities. No pledge is too small, and contributions may be made online, via payroll deduction or via paper forms. Learn more and make your pledge at <https://www.utmb.edu/secc/>.  **Protect against ransomware:**  Ransomware, a type of malicious software that prevents access to computer files until a sum of money is paid, is becoming an increasing threat. Ransomware encrypts files on the infected system, and only the attacker has the key to reverse it. The malicious software can then spread to other systems on the network, meaning one person becoming infected can lead to a loss of important data for many people. In 2016, ransomware attacks against UTMB have affected about 220,000 files and dozens of employees. You can reduce your chance of becoming a ransomware victim and subsequent data loss by:   1. performing frequent system scans using up-to-date anti-malware, 2. disabling macros in Microsoft Office files, 3. not clicking links in unfamiliar emails, and 4. ensuring important data is saved on network drives that are backed-up regularly.   With these few simple measures, you can protect yourself and others from the nuisance of ransomware. If you’d like to learn more, a Cyber Security Lunch and Learn will be held on Oct. 12 from noon to 1 p.m. in Research Building 6, 1.206 Auditorium (Galveston Campus). Topics to be covered include “Cyber Hygiene,” and simple steps to secure your home environment and protect your children from online bullying and cyber predators. A pizza lunch will be provided, but attendees must RSVP by Oct. 10 to [CIRT@utmb.edu](mailto:CIRT@utmb.edu). | |
| TOPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **Epic tip of the week:**  Did you know there is a SmartPhrase to document the reassessment of Sepsis? .sepsisbundle will allow you to document a diagnosis and reassessment in a way that enables the hospital to track reassessment for sepsis-reporting purposes (a Best Care initiative).  **IT reliability a top priority:**  There has been a significant increase in IT service disruptions in the last quarter from a variety of causes including vendor service issues, hardware and software failures due to aging equipment, vendor error and even a motor vehicle accident that disrupted network connectivity to the Angleton Danbury Campus. Clearly, reliable systems and networks are essential to achieving our mission and to delivering Best Care. Information Services is making it a top priority to:   1. quickly improve service reliability from our vendors, 2. procure and install updated equipment, and 3. change the technology design for some services to provide more redundancy.   For more information about what is being done or to share ideas for improvement, please contact Todd Leach, vice president & chief information officer, at [tleach@utmb.edu](mailto:tleach@utmb.edu).    **Welcome:**  Dustin Thomas, MBA/HSA, joined UTMB as vice president of Decision Support on Oct. 3. In this role, Dustin will be responsible for providing leadership and guidance to UTMB’s institutional budgeting, forecasting, data analytics and decision support activities including the strategic development and advancement of our enterprise data warehouse (UTMB Discover) initiatives. Please join us in welcoming Dustin to the UTMB community.  **Kudos:**  Kenneth Ottenbacher, PhD, has been appointed by the director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve a five-year term as a member of the National Advisory Board on Medical Rehabilitation Research, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). Comprising 18 members, the Board advises the NIH director and the director of the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research on matters and policies relating to the Center's medical rehabilitation research and training programs. The Board reviews and assesses federal recommendations for the coordination of such research conducted and supported by the NIH and other agencies of the federal government. Dr. Ottenbacher is the Russell Shearn Moody Distinguished Chair in Neurological Rehabilitation; director and professor of the School of Health Professions; Division of Rehabilitation Sciences; director of the Center for Recovery, Physical Activity and Nutrition and associate director for the Sealy Center on Aging. | | | **Congratulations:**  Dr. Russell Snyder recently received the Baden-Gibbs Award from the Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, which is presented annually to a physician who has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to improving women’s health care within the scope of obstetrics and gynecology and has shown outstanding leadership in obstetrics and gynecology in the state of Texas. Dr. Snyder is associate professor and vice chair of our Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is also the director of the Division of Gynecology and medical director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinics.  **CMC—Computerized Order Entry:**  Computerized Order Entry is a basic expectation in the use of an Electronic Health Record. It is not only more efficient for a user to directly enter his or her own orders, but studies have shown that direct entry of medication orders decreases preventable medication errors by approximately 48%. It is also important for uniformity in this process to ensure that our data that is gathered is complete and accurate.  We appreciate your compliance with this.  **CMC —Flu shots for employees:**  The influenza vaccine for CMC employees has been received, and the CMC Pharmacy began shipping the vaccine the week of Oct. 3. Each unit will receive vaccine doses and Flu Free badges based on FTE counts. UTMB offers free flu shots to its employees to protect against Influenza. As a condition of continued employment, all health care workers must get an annual flu shot or formally decline the vaccination by signing the Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Declination statement. This UTMB requirement applies to anyone who provides direct patient care, enters patient rooms, works in clinics and/or comes within six feet of patients in the course of his or her duties. Once vaccinated (by UTMB or outside UTMB), staff must wear the "Flu Free 2016-2017" badge until the UTMB Office of Epidemiology declares the end of flu season for UTMB locations. Staff will be notified when the flu season begins and flu precautions must be followed. Those who did not receive the flu vaccine must wear masks. If an employee receives a flu shot at a facility outside of UTMB, the employee must provide his/her supervisor or departmental flu champion with proof of vaccination. All employees are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated, unless prohibited for medical reasons. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**  The first State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) was run in 1994 and raised just over $2 million statewide. Last year, University of Texas institutions alone contributed $2.8 million of the $8.5 million raised statewide for charity. Of this amount—raised by all Texas public universities, colleges and state agencies—UTMB raised more than $544,000, up 4 percent from 2014. | |