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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. 4, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| **The Office of Special Programs is hosting:**  Frontera de Salud is hosting a Zoom webinar, February 16, 2021, featuring Frontera de Salud alum, Dr. Adrian Billings. “Life as a Rural Physician in Big Bend” Dr. Billings is Chief Medical Officer, Preventative Care health Services, Alpine, Marfa, and Presidio, Texas. **Zoom registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/02162021>.  Colors of Medicine is hosting a Zoom Minority Medical Student Panel, Saturday, February 20, 2021, 10-11 AM. Our own MS4s discuss their experiences preparing to apply, admissions, and attending medical school. Sponsored by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Minority Health Research and Education Grant Program – MHGP Minority Recruitment.  The zoom link can be found at this webpage: <https://www.utmb.edu/specialprograms/mhgp> | | | **Interim leaders named in Galveston National Laboratory**:   * Randall Urban, MD, has accepted the role of director ad interim of the Galveston National Laboratory, providing overall administrative leadership for the GNL. He will oversee multidisciplinary research efforts in support of both the GNL and NIAID Biodefense Network, and will work to establish research priorities in consultation with the NIAID Program Office and other investigators of the NIAID Biodefense Network, advised by an external Scientific Advisory Board. * Thomas Ksiazek, DVM, PhD, has been named interim associate director of research and operations for the GNL. Among other responsibilities, he will have primary responsibility for all day-to-day operational issues critical to the safe and efficient utilization of the GNL. We thank Dr. Urban and Dr. Ksiazek for taking on these important roles.   **Shoe donations needed at The Care Closet:** The Care Closet needs new or gently used shoes for men and women. The Care Closet is a basic needs pantry located on the Galveston Campus, and these shoes will be provided to our patients and their loved ones in times of need. We will be accepting tennis/walking shoes or slip-on shoes with rubber soles. Please no dress shoes or sandals. Shoes can be dropped off in the red barrels at the following locations on the Galveston Campus:   * Health Resource Center– Floor 2 of Jennie Sealy Hospital by the Information Desk * Administration Building– Floor 1 * Rebecca Sealy Building – Floor 1, Main Entrance * John Sealy Hospital – Floor 1 by the Information Desk   For more information, contact Savannah Parks at [sjparks@utmb.edu](mailto:sjparks@utmb.edu) or (409) 266-7542.  **New diversity-focused courses added to annual required training:** To help promote cultural awareness and sensitivity, UTMB has added three new diversity-focused courses to the annual required training. These courses are designed to educate, influence and motivate employees, and they may be accessed through the UTMB Learn system. For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4nv>.  **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**  **New Health & Wellness with UTMB Health video series debuted Sunday, Jan 31 on the Houston Moms Blog:** UTMB’s Dr. Elizabeth Cloninger, an OB/GYN in Clear Lake, joined host Meagan Clanahan, co-owner of the Houston Moms Blog, to discuss the COVID-19 vaccine and its safety for women who are pregnant, planning to get pregnant and/or nursing**.** This video is the first in what will be a monthly series in which experts from UTMB will join the Houston Moms Blog to discuss a variety of important health topics. To watch the full interview with Dr. Cloninger, visit <https://www.facebook.com/HoustonMomsBlog/videos/422654505681420>. | |
| OPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **REMINDER New compliance training required by Feb. 28:** UTMB is committed to ensuring our employees receive ongoing training and education relating to equal employment opportunity and sexual misconduct laws. Due to recent changes in Title IX, a federal law prohibiting sex-based discrimination, all employees must complete a brief, web-based training on the investigative complaint process for sexual harassment allegations that fall under Title IX. The EEO Sexual Misconduct Compliance Training Module should take less than five minutes to complete and is due by Feb. 28. To access the training, log in to the UTMB Learn system at <https://utmb.learn.taleo.net> with your UTMB username and password. Any questions about the training or the investigative compliant process should be directed to the Department of Internal Investigations and Title IX Office at (409) 747-5740 or [asthibod@utmb.edu](mailto:asthibod@utmb.edu).  **COVID-19 UPDATES—VACCINE EDITION  Current vaccination program status:**   * Focus of vaccination program remains on **Phase 1A (health care workers) and Phase 1B (high-risk individuals)**, consistent with state guidelines. * Galveston County, UTMB and the Galveston County Health District are piloting a COVID vaccination waitlist. Visit [www.utmb.edu/vaccine](http://www.utmb.edu/vaccine) for more information. * **Employees who missed their appointment for the second dose should reschedule** by emailing Employee Health at [emphlthc@utmb.edu](mailto:emphlthc@utmb.edu) with “COVID Vaccine Dose 2” as the subject line. * View COVID-19 Vaccination Preparedness Task Force messages at  <https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/vaccine/employee-info>.   **Even if you’ve been vaccinated, continue to practice COVID safety at work, at home and in public. We must keep our guard up against COVID-19 until we have achieved widespread vaccination:**   * **Practice frequent hand hygiene** by washing thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer. * **Practice good social distancing** at all times, including in elevators and conference rooms. Continue to use teleconferencing when possible. * **Wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose in public areas.**Public areas include lobbies, hallways, restrooms, office kitchens/breakrooms, copy rooms and elevators. * **Stay home if sick.**This is particularly important if you have respiratory symptoms or if you have been in contact with someone who may have COVID-19. * **Get your flu shot.**   **Visit the** [**Vaccine Information page**](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/vaccine) on the COVID-19 website, including FAQs.  **COVID-19 site:** You can find the latest information regarding UTMB’s institution-wide response online at [www.utmb.edu/covid-19](http://www.utmb.edu/covid-19).  **Academic Enterprise names new associate chief research officer** :Massoud Motamedi, PhD, has been appointed associate chief research officer for the Academic Enterprise. In this role, Dr. Motamedi will be responsible for pursuing partnerships with other academic institutions and industry for the purposes of research, infrastructure development, and resource access. He will work to enhance institutional competitiveness to attract major grants and contracts; recruit top trainees; promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and commercialization; and secure sustainable support for research resources and infrastructure.  He will provide support to UTMB’s Research Clusters and interact with the Office of Federal Regulations for all research activities. Along with these new responsibilities, Dr. Motamedi will maintain his role of chief bioengineering and biotechnology innovations officer.  **Spotlight On…The Joint Commission:** Monthly Spotlights highlight important TJC standards. This month’s focus is **Oxygen Safety.** When a patient needs oxygen in a hurry, we must provide it quickly and reliably. Among various components of oxygen use in hospitals, The Joint Commission observes safe storage practices and use. Click here to view the Spotlight: <https://utmb.us/4nt>. For more details on our upcoming survey, please visit: <http://intranet.utmb.edu/qhs/the-joint-commission>. **UTMB's current survey window is open through Oct. 26, 2021.** | | | **GALVESTON CAMPUS John Sealy Hospital exterior pedestrian pathway closure:** Beginning Monday, Feb. 8, the east/west pedestrian path in front of John Sealy Hospital will be closed for up to three weeks. The north/south pathway will remain open. The pathway closure is to allow for completion of the exterior of the AB Wing. The John Sealy Hospital circle drive remains open to vehicular traffic for patient drop-off/pick-up. Two short-term parking spots also remain available. Signage in the Hospital Parking Garage will direct patients to enter through Jennie Sealy Hospital.  **Weekly Wellness Recap**  Shared by the UTMB RISE (Resilience in Stressful Events) Task Force, these tips are just one way we can all work to stay emotionally healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.**The focus for February is inclusion**. Here are this week’s tips:   * It’s Black History Month. Work to understand that egalitarian goals can be undermined by implicit biases—vow to recognize and work on these. * Create one meaningful, realistic goal to achieve today. * Spend a few moments recalling a time you felt loved and supported. * Listen to a TED talk on happiness today. * Reflect on something you’ve learned over the past year and congratulate yourself. * Watch a diverse, inclusive films to broaden your perspective. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**  Black History Month is held every February to celebrate the achievements of Black and African Americans throughout history. Each week this month, UTMB and the Black Alliance Employee Resource Group will recognize people of color who have made notable contributions to society and to our university.  This week we would like to highlight Dr. Herman A. Barnett III, the first African American to be admitted into medical school in Texas when he was accepted to UTMB in 1949. Dr. Barnett graduated cum laude from UTMB in 1953 and went on to practice at several hospitals in the Houston area. He was the first African American to be appointed to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners and elected president of the Houston Independent School District Board of Education. Dr. Barnett was honored with the Ashbel Smith Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1978.  To learn more about the Black Alliance Employee Resource Group and how you can get involved in upcoming Black History Month events, please see  <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/diversity/black-alliance-resource-group>. | |