



The Record

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center

August 15, 2003

Medical Technology Leads Allied Health Enrollment Increase

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Allied Health Sciences reported increased enrollment for the 2003-2004 academic year, climbing from 244 full-time students to 291 this fall.

Much of the jump came in the department of medical technology, where numbers increased from 12 in 2002 to 22 in 2003. This is the largest class in 10 years.

“The increase stems from more opportunities in biotechnology and forensics, as well as the nationwide shortage of medical technologists, which have boosted interest and increased salaries,” said Susan Mansfield, EdD, dean, College of Allied Health Sciences. “New

biotechnology companies need experienced lab technicians, and culturing and identifying biohazards has become a necessity in the post 9/11 era,” she stated.



Middle schools students enjoy lab camp at UTHSC, an event the college has used to boost interest.

“Medical technology has gained a lot of prestige,” said Dr. Mansfield. “But they also did a lot of recruiting last year, and it shows.”

Tewenty-four students will enter the department of occupational therapy this fall, compared with 18 in 2002. The department of physical therapy increased its class size from 34 to 40. Shortages and salary increases are also occurring in these areas. Additionally, there has been an increase in graduate student numbers.

Grounds Crew Commended

UTHSC received the Memphis City Beautiful Business Award (institutional category) in July, marking the eighth time the campus has been given this recognition. In 1991, UTHSC won the Mayor’s Award, the highest honor given by the city.

In reference to the grounds crew, Whit Sutton, superintendent of grounds and logistical services commented, “I just get out of the way and let them do their thing.”

Grounds crew members include: (left to right) Barry Flannagan, Sylvester Covington, Carmen Jividen, and Gentle Thomas.



UTHSC Research Team Studies Schizophrenia

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is part of an eight-site, five-year study to learn more about how genes in the African-American population

affect the development of schizophrenia. “Project Among African-Americans to Explore Risks for Schizophrenia (PAARTNERS)” is being funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. Neil Edwards, MD, University Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry, is principal investigator.



Neil Edwards, MD

Genes are tiny chemical structures in cells that determine traits such as eye color or height, and diseases such as schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder that interrupts the process of thinking. Affecting 1 percent of adults worldwide, those stricken with the disease usually lose contact with reality and have blunted or inappropriate emotional responsiveness.

“This is truly an important study,” said Dr. Edwards. “Identifying genes in this particular group will help pinpoint causation and may lead to better treatment methods. “Kristin Beizai, MD, assistant professor, and Marie Tobin, MD, assistant professor, are co-investigators. UTHSC is currently seeking African-American families with at least one schizophrenic family member for the study, call 448-2027 or visit www.utmem.edu/psychresearch

Security Alert

From Campus Police

It's the time of year when thefts rise with the temperatures.

Keep office doors locked at all times when not occupied.

Keep vehicles secure and all valuables out of sight.

Report suspicious persons or activities to police at 448-4444.

The Record

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Mission Statement

The mission of The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is to improve human health through education, research and public service, with an emphasis on improving the health of Tennesseans.

The Record is published by the office of communications and marketing bi-monthly. The edition published on the first of each month is printed in hard copy. The mid-month edition is published online at www.utmem.edu/record. Send all communications to: 320 Hyman. Phone: 448-4954. Fax: 448-8640

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer.
EO7-0401-029-03 (1572)

Volunteer Opportunities

Quit Smoking

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center has received a grant for \$2.7 million from the Department of Health and Human Services; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and National Institutes of Health to conduct a double-blind smoking cessation clinical trial to study young adults who smoke, especially non-Caucasians.

The trial, referred to as STAR, is looking for volunteers who must:

- be 18-35 years of age
- smoke an average of 5 or more cigarettes a day
- be in good health
- want to quit smoking

Contact (901) 448-8400 or 1-800-916-2606.

Fight Terrorism

In the case of a bioterrorism attack in Shelby County, the Health Department's Bioterrorism Preparedness Team is seeking volunteers from UTHSC.

The team is looking for physicians, nurses, clerical/secretarial staff, data entry/medical records personnel, pharmacists/pharmacy technicians, individuals for traffic control and parking, individuals for crowd control, translators (multiple languages including sign language), EMTs, IT specialists, mental health professionals, clergy, clinical professionals and/or students willing to be trained and assist with immunizations and general volunteers.

Contact www.shelbybtvolunteers.org or call 725-4687.

UTHSC Updates Media Policy

The university receives media calls daily and following is the updated policy to provide direction in handling inquiries.

At the Health Science Center the Chancellor or his designee is the official spokesperson with respect to the media. The communications and marketing department is assigned responsibility for coordinating all Health Science Center media contacts, for serving as liaison for all media relations and for assisting in the promotion and dissemination of noteworthy items to the public.

Faculty or staff who are contacted directly by the media should consult with the communications and marketing department prior to providing any response to the media either by telephone or personal interview.

Faculty or staff who have or are involved with materials, achievements, honors, major grants or UT-related events are encouraged to share good deeds with the public, but must coordinate proposed media releases or contacts with communications and marketing.

It is the responsibility of communications and marketing to assure appropriate coordination is maintained with other offices or agencies and to assure appropriate approvals are obtained prior to making a response.

- The University-Wide Administration must be involved when items are associated with major UT priorities.
- Policy or institutional level issues must be coordinated through the dean's or chancellor's office. The Chancellor is the only spokesperson for the Health Science Center in such matters.
- Educational issues are collegiate matters and must involve the dean.
- Donor gift and pledge information is considered confidential and must be treated as such. Issues or questions regarding donors are to be directed through the Vice Chancellor of Development or his/her designee. *Should you have any questions regarding the policy, contact Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett, director of communications and marketing at 8-4957.*

People

Mark Patters, DDS, former chair of the department of periodontology, has been named interim associate dean for academic affairs for the College of Dentistry. He is replacing **Russell Gilpatrick, DDS**, who was appointed dean. **Sydney Stein, DDS**, associate professor, has been named interim chair for the department of periodontology. **Russell A. Wicks, DDS**, has been named interim chair for the department of restorative dentistry. **William F. Slagle, DDS**, former dean, has been appointed Dean Emeritus, and will assist the new dean with the Mid-South Dental Congress, fundraising and the university dental practice.

Russell W. Chesney, MD, LeBonheur Professor and Chair, department of pediatrics, and professor in the department of molecular sciences, will serve as workshop chair at the National Academies Institute of Medicine in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Surya Shah, PhD, has become the first person in the history of the occupational therapy department in the College of Allied Health Sciences to reach the level of professor.

Christopher Buchanan, MD, is the recipient of a \$1,000 Pfizer Scholars in Urology Grant.

Health Care Heroes

Several physicians and researchers at UT have been selected as finalists as “2003 Health Care Heroes,” sponsored by the *Memphis Business Journal*. UT faculty are represented in four of the six major categories. The finalists, by category, are:

Community Outreach

Para los Ninos project

Gail Beeman, MD; Marian Levy, PhD; and Espi Ralson, MA, all three of the Children’s Foundation Research Center in the UTHSC department of pediatrics

Health Care Innovations

Thom Lobe, MD, professor of Surgery at UTHSC

Health Care Provider (Physician)

Tim Fabian, MD, chairman of the department of surgery at UTHSC

Lifetime Achievement (two finalists)

Russell Chesney, MD, professor and chair of the UTHSC College of Medicine’s pediatric department

James W. Pate, emeritus professor of surgery at UTHSC

Congratulations!

UTHSC extends a warm welcome to the new members of our community.

New Staff

Ken Hawkins

Autopsy Tech II, Pathology

Roberta Beene

Medical Admin. Specialist, Neurobiology

Shannon Chabot

Sr. Research Assistant, Preventive Medicine

Pricilla Colagross

Vet Assistant, Comparative Medicine

Wenyuan Zhao

Research Associate, Medicine

Ellen Cole

Child Care Trainer, Center for Developmental Disabilities

Yvonne Thomas Harris

Principal Secretary, Biologic Diagnostic

New Faculty

Johnathan Sorenson

Assistant Professor, Nursing

Tamara Gravely, DMD

Assistant Professor, Dentistry

Rakesh K Chandra, MD

Assistant Professor, Medicine

Todd Tillmanns

Assistant Professor, Medicine

Rennolds Ostrom, PhD

Assistant Professor, Medicine

Sheila Melander

Professor, Nursing

Antonio Martinez

Instructor, Medicine

Jean-Hugues Parmentier

Instructor, Medicine

Support Available for Med Students

Medical school can be stressful and the College of Medicine has an extensive network of support including peer counselors, faculty mentors, and the Student Academic Support Service (SAS). For emotional support, students can turn to Audience of One (AOO).

AOO allows students a confidential, convenient way to discuss their problems to an impartial, non-judgmental outsider. The idea was

initiated by Sandra Kaplan, now an M-4. Renate Rosenthal, PhD, director of medical student education in the department of psychiatry, is the faculty sponsor.

The program is run by students for the students and is entering its fourth year. This past academic year, AOO logged more than 60 counseling contacts.

Visit the AOO website at <http://www.utmem.edu/AOO/AudienceOfOne.html>

News Bites

The **College of Medicine Admissions Office** has relocated to 910 Madison, 5th Floor.

The Memphis Chapter of the **Student National Dental Association** has received awards for Best Chapter of the Year for the fourth consecutive year and Best Scrapbook for the second consecutive year.

The **UTHSC Student National Pharmacy Association** Chapter received the Chauncey I. Cooper National Chapter of Excellence Award. This is the sixth time in eight years that UTHSC has won the award, which recognizes dedication and excellence.

UTHSC will support the American Heart Association (AHA) through participation in the **Ninth Annual American Heart Walk** Saturday, Sept. 13. Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 8 a.m. at Autozone Park. The walk will be from 9 to 10 a.m. in downtown Memphis.

Those not able to attend the event may make a donation in memory or honor of a family member or friend. If you plan to walk or volunteer at one of the AHA booths, contact pvanhoozer@utmem.edu Also, AHA contributions may be sent to campus coordinator, Pat VanHoozer, 910 Madison, Suite 600, by Monday, Sept. 8

UTHSC has launched a new support site for **Blackboard**, the university's course management system. It is located at www.utmem.edu/Bb

Faculty, staff and student doctors from the **College of Dentistry** gave free dental health screenings to 210 individuals at this year's Sisterhood Showcase. They screened for oral cancer and gum disease, and offered advice about seeking additional dental care.

Slagle Honored With Donation



UT College of Dentistry Board of Trustees honored out-going dean, William Slagle, DDS, with a \$10,000 gift to the William F. Slagle Dental Alumni Association Endowment at the July board meeting. Pictured left to right are, David K. Rowe, DDS; G.W. Sorrells, Jr., DDS; Dr. Slagle; Edward F. Adair, DDS; and James M. Dougherty, DDS.

HS Students Gain Research Experience

High school students Liesl Becker, Jack O'Connor and Sarah Wilson spent this summer conducting pharmacology research at UTHSC in order to gain valuable experience.

These students were part of the American Heart Association's Jay Sullivan High School Research Program, which has been sponsored by the College of Graduate Health Sciences for over 10 years. They were mentored by Shannon G. Matta, PhD, associate professor of pharmacology, and supported through her National Institute of Drug Abuse grant.

"This is a very special program with long-term results," said Ed Schneider, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics and

associate dean of the College of Graduate Health Sciences. "We really appreciate the AHA for its sponsorship,

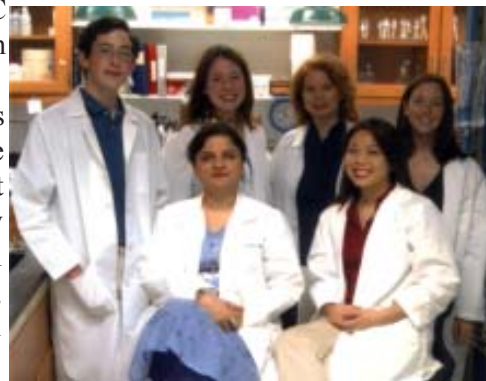
but more importantly, it is the College of Medicine faculty members like Dr. Matta who put in grant money and hours of hard work that make this program work."

The students were enthusiastic about the experience.

"I will definitely go into research!" said Becker, a senior at Ridgeway High School. "I did so much here."

"It's the best summer I have had," said O'Connor, a junior at White Station High School.

Wilson, also a senior at Ridgeway High School, said, "I have learned so much here *and* it was fun!"



Pictured left to right: (back) Jack O'Connor, Liesl Becker, Shannon G. Matta, PhD, and Sarah Wilson (front) Ghazala Mazahar and Mia Tran



Campus Calendar

August 15 through September 15

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|---|---|
| <p>20 Medicine Grand Rounds
Gastroenterology - “The surgical approach to obesity”
8 a.m., Coleman North Auditorium</p> <p>UT Football Kickoff
Contact: Andy Holt, (901) 373-3915
6 p.m., Park Vista Hotel (formerly Adam’s Mark Hotel)</p> | <p>1 Labor Day Holiday</p> |
| <p>22 “Extracellular lysophospholipase D that produces bioactive lysophospholipid mediators: its physiological and pathological significance”
<i>Dr. Akira Tokumura</i>
3:30 p.m., Room 516 Nash</p> | <p>3 Submission deadline for September 15 issue of <i>The Record</i></p> <p>4 “Gamma tubulin ring complex” lecture
<i>Dr. Sudeep P. George</i>
3:30 p.m., Room 516 Nash</p> |
| <p>27 Medicine Grand Rounds
Nephrology - “Coronary artery calcifications: pathophysiology and clinical implications”
8 a.m., Coleman North Auditorium</p> | <p>6 Employee Appreciation Day
Registration forms can be found at www.utmem.edu/oed/libertyland.html
6-10 p.m., Libertyland Amusement Park</p> <p>9 Administrative Council meeting
7:30 a.m., Room 101 Hyman</p> <p>10 “Psychological burnout among leaders of academic medical centers” lecture
<i>Dr. David Mirvis</i>
10 a.m., Room 600 Pauline</p> |