

MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST

If you think you have it tough, chances are you don't have to look far to find someone who has it much worse. Dr. Mehrukh Mujeeb, a fellow in the Division of Geriatrics, experienced the truth of this statement recently on her community rotation. Working with Hospice, she met a family in dire need — a single mother with five children living in a broken down trailer and needing the very basics — food, clothing, toiletries. Dr. Mujeeb immediately called on her fellow UTMB residents and colleagues who responded in true UTMB fashion. They have collected a truck load of needed items and raised almost \$6000 for the family. I am so proud of a community that can reach out to others in need, even as it is going through a difficult time. If you would like to make a contribution for this family, donations are being accepted until February 12th. Donations may be delivered to the Internal Medicine Residents Lounge, 4th floor of John Sealy Annex. For more information contact Dr. Mehrukh Mujeeb, memujeeb@utmb.edu, cell phone: 409-795-4225, pager: 409-645-5091, or Dr. Loretta Lee Grumbles, lgrumble@utmb.edu, 409-938-0070.



Consulting firm **Kurt Salmon Associates** will present its report at 3:30 p.m. today to the UT System Board of Regents regarding inpatient care at UTMB. You can view the meeting at www.utsystem.edu/BOR/meetings.htm. A public hearing is scheduled to hear and discuss findings of the report on February 20th in Galveston at the Moody Gardens Convention Center (time TBA). The report will include whether to move most inpatient health care to the mainland or to continue treating most patients on the island. Another option is allowing the medical branch to serve patients at both island and north county facilities.

The next **Faculty of Medicine Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd, 5:15 p.m., Levin Hall North Auditorium.

The **Academy of Master Teachers** will be sending a campus-wide notice in the coming months asking for letters of intent to apply for membership. Assistance is available in the preparation of your application and portfolio. The AMT is also available for:

- Educator Portfolio Workshops for an area or department
- Consultation for Lecturers, Small Group Facilitators, and Course Directors Facing Post-Ike Challenges

Save the date for the Academy's 2nd Annual Education Symposium which will be held May 15. For information or to schedule a consultation, please email or call Carol McCoggins, AMT coordinator, at 789-4250 (cvmccogg@utmb.edu), or Dr. Virginia Niebuhr, Mentoring and Consultation Team leader, at 772-2357 (vniebuhr@utmb.edu).

The next **synergy seminar** will be held on Thursday, February 12 at 5:15 p.m., in the Clinical Sciences Auditorium (Room 362). Presenters include David R. Marshall, Assistant Vice President for Patient Care and Chief Nursing Officer. The 60-minute presentation will be followed by a 30-minute discussion. Students attending all five seminars will receive a certificate of completion. School of Health Professions students are eligible for Interdisciplinary Studies credit for attending the seminars.

The seminar series focuses on UTMB's response to Hurricane Ike. Future seminars are scheduled for March 12, March 26 and April 9. For more information, contact Lodie Massey at 772-9594, lmasssey@utmb.edu, or visit the [synergy](http://www.utmb.edu/synergy) web site.

CLINICS

The **UTMB Medical and Surgical Specialties Clinic in Friendswood** has opened at 121 W. Parkwood, at the intersection of FM 528 and 518 in the same shopping plaza as the Friendswood HEB grocery store. The clinic features an infusion (chemotherapy) suite and the services of a staff nutritionist as well as endocrinology to new and existing patients and care in rheumatology. For more information call (281) 482-0303; the fax is (281) 992-2909.

The **Department of Dermatology** is now open with clinics both in Galveston and on the Mainland. All clinic locations are performing general and surgical dermatology procedures for both adults and children. [Click here](#) for a listing of clinics, locations and services.

The **After Hours Pediatric Urgent Care Centers** have new weekend hours, effective immediately. The clinic hours are listed at: <http://www.utmb.edu/pedi/>.

An updated listing of UTMB community and departmental clinics on the Mainland and in Galveston is available at: <http://www.utmbhealthcare.org/Documents/UTMBClinics2-04-09.pdf>. For more information about clinics and/or physicians and providers, call the UTMB Access Center at (409) 772-2222 or toll-free at (800) 917-8906, or visit <http://www.utmbhealthcare.org/>.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Faculty

Lisa D. Cain, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology, Associate Member, Institute for the Medical Humanities and Director of the Medical School Enrichment Programs, recently traveled to Eritrea as a guest of the Minister of Health of Eritrea and the Dean of the Orotta Medical and Dental Schools. She served as an educational consultant to develop a needs assessment, and provide advice and explore collaborative opportunities regarding the establishment of a graduate school of biomedical sciences in conjunction with the Orotta Medical School.

Congratulations to **Dai H. Chung, M.D.** who has been honored with the first Werner Creutzfeldt lectureship in recognition of contributions to translational and clinical research related to regulatory peptides. Dr. Chung is Professor and Chief of Pediatric Surgery in the Department of Surgery and holder of the James C. Thompson, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Surgery. The International Regulatory Peptide Society promotes scientific meetings and exchanges devoted to all aspects of basic and clinical research on regulatory peptides and related topics. The society was founded in 1974 by the late Dr. James C. Thompson, who was Ashbel Smith Professor Emeritus of Surgery at UTMB. [Click here](#) for more details. You can read more about the accomplishments of your colleagues in this month's issue of SOM e-NEWS.

Faculty, mark your calendars now to attend the **School of Medicine Commencement** ceremonies on Saturday, May 30, 2009 at the Moody Gardens Convention Center. Faculty orders for commencement regalia are being taken until Feb. 27th. If orders are not submitted by the deadline, a \$15 late fee will be applied. See the [Commencement web page](#) for details.

Students

Autumn Ray, a third-year medical student, won the New Orleans Marathon in 2 hours, 58 minutes and 18 seconds. See the full story: <http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=c1e9d0e5ae23cd8fc8545f57966c90b3>

Match week is scheduled for March 16-19, 2009. Details can be found: http://www.som.utmb.edu/news/news_match2009.html.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Faculty

Medical Discovery News, UTMB's two-minute weekly radio program that delves into a broad range of biomedical science topics, has received a 2009 Award of Excellence from the Association of American Medical Colleges. AAMC judges commended the work of David Niesel, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and Norbert Herzog, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Departments of Pathology, and

Microbiology & Immunology. The radio program, which first aired in late 2006, is a weekly series of episodes that provide insights into a broad range of biomedical science topics. To learn more about Medical Discovery News, visit www.medicaldiscoverynews.com.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Faculty

Congratulations to the School of Health Professions on receiving UT System approval this month of the Faculty Practice Plan By-laws.

Students

SHP student recruiting efforts are going strong with recent and ongoing interviews in several programs. January's Open House met with a very positive response with another planned this month. For Fall 2009, SHP programs expect to be on par or exceed 2008 enrollment.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Faculty

Congratulations to the following School of Nursing faculty on their achievements:

Kyungeh An, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, has been named Director of the School of Nursing's Bio-Behavioral Laboratory.

Elizabeth Reifsnider, Ph.D., WHNP, APRN, BC, Constance Brewer Koomey Professor and Associate Dean for Research, is a member of the research team lead by Nicola Abate, M.D., that recently received an Institutional Clinical and Translational Sciences Award for the project, *Pilot Study for the Obesity and Metabolic Complication Translation Team*. Dr. Abate's team received one of the six awards of \$105,000 for two years.

Charlotte Wisnewski, Ph.D., R.N., BC, CDE, Associate Professor, has successfully passed the National League for Nursing's (NLN) Nurse Educator Certification Examination, and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education's (CCNE) site evaluator for Post Baccalaureate nursing residency programs. In addition, she has been selected to serve on the Research Committee for the American Association of Diabetes Education for 2009.

Students

Micah Vo, R.N., a student in the master's program, has received the 2008 Critical Care Nurse Week Excellence Award, a national award sponsored by Johnson & Johnson.

Rebeka Watson, B.S.N., R.N., a doctoral student, was a student poster winner for the 12th Annual UTMB Forum on Aging held November 19, 2008, which was sponsored by the Sealy Center on Aging in conjunction with UTMB Research Services.

The SON undergraduate and master's programs are thriving with increased enrollment in the BACC2 program, which has been very successful.

RESEARCH

The next **research update** with Mr. Bill New, Associate Dean for Research Services Administration, is scheduled on Friday, February 13 at 2 p.m. in Levin Hall North auditorium. The February update with the Provost will be on February 27 at 2 p.m. in Levin Hall North auditorium.

The **IRB office** has relocated to its normal office space on the fourth floor of Rebecca Sealy in the Research Services suite and will continue their current office hours of 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with meetings by appointments only. If you are dropping off or picking up materials, no appointment is necessary. For more information visit the IRB Office web site: <http://research.utmb.edu/irb/about.shtm>.

The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas in conjunction with UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and UT Southwestern Medical Center, announces a two-day seminar, "**Frontiers of Cancer Research Conference**," which provides a forum for Texas researchers to share information about the latest advances in cancer research in the areas of biology, emerging technologies and therapeutics. This event offers a unique opportunity to explore areas for collaboration with Texas' scientific and medical leaders. The conference will feature a poster competition and travel awards of \$250 will be available for students from outside the Houston area whose posters are accepted. For more information contact Susan Onion, susan@tameest.org, (512) 345-2489, or visit the following website: <http://www.tameest.org/events/cancerfrontiers.htm>.

Sincerely,

Garland D. Anderson, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost
Dean, School of Medicine
Thomas N. and Gleaves T. James Distinguished Chair