

International Relations 2005

Sources

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University Administration

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Please visit the office's Web site at www.uth.tmc.edu/internationalprograms/

Bringing UTHSC-H to the World – Bringing the World to UTHSC-H

In June of 2001, the Office of International Programs was created to further the collaboration with health and educational institutions in other countries by facilitating international connections. The office serves as a central conduit by forming affiliation agreements with other institutions worldwide.

The Office of International Programs gathers and disseminates information about current international connections while encouraging faculty, research fellows, and students to form exchanges. By collaborating with health care institutions throughout the world, our office is bringing the world to UTHSC-H and bringing UTHSC-H to the world.

Affiliations

The Office of International Programs acts as a liaison between the health science center and worldwide health care and educational institutions. Our affiliation agreements encourage faculty, research fellows and students to form an exchange outside of their home institution. Below is a list of affiliation agreements between the health science center and our worldwide affiliates.

Country	Name of University/Institution
Albania	University of Tirana
Belarus	Grodno State Medical University
Brazil	Federal University of Bahia University of Brasilia
Chile	University of Chile, The School of Medicine University of Valparaiso
Colombia	Universidad del Norte
Czech Republic	1st Medical Faculty, Charles University
Egypt	Ain Shams University of Cairo
Finland	University of Turku
Hungary	University of Debrecen
India	Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences Rajiv Gandhi College of Engineering at Sriperumbudur
Israel	Tel Aviv University
Japan	Gunma University Hiroshima University, Graduate School of Health Sciences Hokkaido University Kanagawa Dental College Kyoto University, The Graduate School of Medicine Tokyo Dental College Tokyo Women's Medical University University of Fukui University of Tokushima Yamaguchi University, School of Medicine
Korea	Hanyang University Medical School Presbyterian Medical Center (Jesus Hospital) Seoul National University Medical School Sogang University, Department of Life Science
Lebanon	University of Balamand, Faculty of Medicine
Mexico	Monterrey Institute of Technology & Higher Education Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara

Country	Name of University/Institution
Mexico, cont.	Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas
Pakistan	Aga Khan University University of Health Sciences Lahore
People's Republic of China	Beijing HaiDian District Department of Health Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Medical College of Qingdao University Nanjing Medical University Peking Union Medical College Peking University Qiqihar Medical College Soochow University, Department of Nursing The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University Wuhan University Xian Jiaotong University
Poland	Medical University of Łódź
Republic of China	Chang Gung University Fu-Jen Catholic University
Spain	MDA Holding Spain S.A.
Thailand	Chiang Mai University Mahidol University
The Netherlands	Maastricht University University of Limburg
Turkey	Selcuk University
Ukraine	Ukrainian State Medical University
United Kingdom	Richmond, The American International University in London University of London King's College
Vietnam	University of Health Sciences, Ho Chi Minh City and Dentistry Overseas, a division of Health Volunteers Overseas Vietnam Education Foundation Fellowship Program

Italy*Bambino Gesu Hospital*

The Office of International Programs hosted a delegation from Bambino Gesu Hospital, Italy on March 3, 2005. The delegation was invited to visit Texas by Governor Perry. The delegation included: Dr. Alberto Villani, Dr. Maria Osti, Dr. Sergio Bottero, Dr. Nicola Capozza, and Dr. Valentina Osti, and was accompanied by Mr. Roberto DeHoyos from the Governor's Office. During their stay, they visited with President James T. Willerson, Senior Executive Vice President Michael McKinney, Dean Catherine Flaitz, Dr. John W. Sparks, Dr. Mark E. Wong, Dr. Didier Malis, Dr. Jose Marchena, Dr. Jon E. Tyson, Dr. Brenda H. Morris, Dr. Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, and Dr. John W. Sparks. All the meetings gave ample opportunities for the exchange of views and sharing of experiences. Bambino Gesu traces its roots back to 1869 when it opened as a charitable twelve-bed hospital and was later donated to the Pope in 1924. It has three locations: Rome, Palidoro and S. Marinella specializing in children's clinical research and serving children and adolescents as Italy's most prominent pediatric medical center.

Mexico*Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, School of Nursing*

A delegation from the Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, School of Nursing, Tampico, Mexico visited the UTHSC-H on October 18, 2004. The delegation included Dr. Maria del Refugio Zavala Rodriguez, Lic. Maria de los Angeles Fang Huerta, Lic. Olivia Cruz Pecina, Lic. Rosa Margarita Ortega Lopez and Lic. Paulina Aguilera Perez. In attendance from UTHSC-H were Ms. Rose Mary Valencia, Dr. Gwen Sherwood, Dr. Jeanette McNeill, Ms. Elda Ramirez. During the visit, Dr. Chang discussed updating the Agreement of Cooperation with the delegation. Subsequently, the agreement was signed to renew ties between the two universities.

Pakistan*University of Health Sciences, Lahore*

An Agreement of Cooperation between the UTHSC-H and the University of Health Sciences in Lahore, Pakistan, was signed in Washington DC by President James T. Willerson and Chairman of the Board of Governors Professor Mahmood Ahmad and Vice Chancellor Professor Malik Hussain Mubbashar on September 22, 2004. In attendance were numerous US Senators and Congressmen, President of Pakistan Pervaiz Musharraf and Pakistani Ambassador to the US Ashraf Jehangir Qazi. Professor Ahmad visited UTHSC-H on September 23 and 24, 2004. The visit included a series of meetings with the following officials: Dean George M. Stancel, Dr. Michael D. McKinney, Dr. L. Maximilian Buja, Dr. Terry E. Rives, Dean Jack W. Smith, Dean Stanley G. Schultz, Dean Guy S. Parcel, and Dr. Hui-Ming Chang. This agreement was brought to us by Dr. Michael McKinney, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and his friend Dr. Amanullah Khan.

People's Republic of China*Chinese Medical Association*

The Chinese Medical Association, established in 1915 in Shanghai, is the organization for all medical professionals in China. It acts as the liaison between the government and medical professionals and seeks to raise the standards of health care for all people in China. Dr. Chang met with visitors from the Chinese Medical Association on December 13, 2004. Dr. Yong-Jian Geng, Associate professor of International Medicine, brought this delegation to UTHSC-H. The Chinese Medical Association Delegation included President Dr. De Wang, Senior Editors: Dr. Wu-ye Bao, Dr. Ai-hua Xue, Dr. Jian-jun Hou, and Deputy Director Dr. Lin Wang.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

After several meetings between Dr. Chang and Dr. Paul Ching-Wu Chu, President of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the Agreement of Cooperation was signed by Presidents James T. Willerson and Paul C.W. Chu on April 5, 2005. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology offers degrees in Science, Engineering, Business & Management, and Humanities & Social Sciences and recently received a pledge of \$100 million to support its development as a world academic leader and its initiatives in Mainland China. Dr. Chu serves not only as the President of the Hong Kong University but also as Professor of Physics and TLL Temple Chair of Science at the University of Houston. An internationally celebrated physicist, Dr. Chu held the post of the Director of the Texas Center for Superconductivity and Advanced Materials at the University of Houston.

Republic of China*Ministry of Education, National Science Council*

Dr. Chang was selected by the Ministry of Education, Chairman of National Science Council, and Vice President of Academia Sinica of the Republic of China to represent the southern region of the US at a meeting in San Francisco during the days of October 25-26, 2004. The Ministry of Education organized the meeting to implement a national program to cultivate future science and technology experts for Taiwan. Invited participants included members of Academia Sinica, presidents of major universities in Taiwan, and distinguished Chinese Americans and Chinese Europeans. The meeting was chaired by the Republic of China's Minister of Education Mr. Tu Cheng-sheng. Taiwan Merit Scholarship program (TMS) was established after this meeting. Funded by the government of the Republic of China, TMS selects and supports young talent to pursue advanced research in US and Europe. Dr. Chang was invited to review and select awardees of TMS in March and August of 2005.

South Africa

Johannesburg Development Agency

On August 1, 2005 a delegation from the Johannesburg Development Agency visited UTHSC-H to learn ways of reviving their city and to build a Johannesburg Medical Quarter. The delegation included Mr. Malambo Shakantu, Mr. Agmat Badat and Mr. Steve Topham. The delegation expressed particular interest in the School of Nursing building for its environmentally-friendly design and its community services building. The tour of the School of Nursing, led by Mr. James Victor, Mr. Thomas M. Roberts and Ms. Kimberly Hickson from BNIM Architects was unanimously acclaimed by the Delegation as their entire tour's "blockbuster."

United Kingdom

Dame Julia Margaret Polak, Imperial College, London

Dame Julia Margaret Polak, Professor and Chairman of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine at Imperial College London, was created Dame Commander of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honors list in recognition of her services to medicine. In addition to being an accomplished scientist, she is also the oldest and longest survivor of a heart and lung transplant in the UK. Following her visit to UTHSC-H in June of 2004, she returned for two three-week sabbaticals from November 10 to December 02, 2004 and from February 14 to March 4, 2005. Dr. Ferid Murad hosted her in the Medical School and the Institute of Molecular Medicine. She formed collaborations with Dr. Willerson, Dr. Murad and the faculty on cardiac regeneration and stem cell research. In November 2004, she gave the Medical School Dean's Special Lecture on stem cells and regenerative medicine.

Vietnam

VEF - Vietnam Education Foundation

The VEF is a special initiative by the Federal Government and the people of the United States to promote closer relations between the US and Vietnam. VEF provides opportunities for Vietnamese nationals to pursue graduate and post-graduate studies in science and technology in the US. Memoranda of Understanding between the VEF and UTHSC-H, School of Public Health and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences were signed in 2005. Nine Vietnamese students were enrolled in the doctoral programs: three in GSBS and six in SPH in the 2005 academic year. The signed Memoranda of Understanding with the School of Public Health and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences make stipulation for ongoing recruitment and enrollment of future candidates sponsored by the VEF. The Office of International Programs initiated this collaboration and hosted meetings for VEF students to have direct dialogue with Deans George Stancel and Guy Parcel.

Multinational

Fulbright Scholars

The School of Public Health hosted visiting Fulbright Scholar Dr. Aliya Toleuova, a researcher at the Karaganda State Medical Academy in Kazakhstan, to conduct research and analyze American occupational health policies for miners. Her research project entitled *The Influence of Occupational Safety and Health Policies to the Rate of Occupational Disease Among Miners*, was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Arch Carson, Assistant Professor, Department of Occupational Medicine, School of Public Health. The Medical School Department of Internal Medicine Division of Cardiology welcomed a visiting Fulbright Scholar Dr. Mogammad Faadiel Essop, Senior Lecturer at the Hatter Institute for Cardiology Research at the University of Cape Town South Africa. He conducted research on the role of elevated fatty acid utilization in the development of cardiovascular disease under the direction of Dr. Heinrich Taegtmeier.

Harvard Weatherhead Center Fellows

The Offices of International Programs and Public Affairs hosted the Harvard University Weatherhead Center's distinguished international Fellows for the second time on January 25, 2005. The delegation included sixteen international policy makers including senior diplomats, military officers, politicians, journalists, civil servants, business leaders, and non-governmental officials. Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Dr. Michael D. McKinney and Executive Vice President for External Affairs Dr. Carlos R. Hamilton welcomed the visitors. Dr. Bruce C. Kone, Chairman of Internal Medicine, spoke on the oxidative and nitrosative stress in disease. Dr. Donald A. Molony, Professor of Medicine, spoke on the leading role of the Health Sciences Center in promoting evidence-based medicine. Dr. Bryant Boutwell, Associate Dean for Community Affairs and Professional Education, Medical School, presented an overview of the UTHSC-H and the TMC. Dr. Thomas R. Cole, Director of The John P. McGovern Center for Health, Humanities, and the Human Spirit, gave a presentation titled *What Does It Mean to Grow Old?* Attendees included Harvard University Fellows and administrators, the Institute of International Education, and Health Science Center faculty and administrators from all six schools. Weatherhead Center Fellows are: Antonio Alvarez-Couceiro (Spain), Karl-Olof Andersson (Sweden), Colonel Stefan Aubrey (USA), Commander Edward A. Bradfield (USA), Kenneth Cook (Canada), Charles Draper (UK), Liliana Ferrer (Mexico), François Gauthier (France), Kemal Gürüz (Turkey), Paul Hare (UK), Jørgen Henningsen (Denmark), Stefan Möbs (Germany), Colonel David A. Simon (USA), Sheila Stamps (USA/UK), Longbao Wei (China).

International Medical Visitor Service Center at the Houston Intercontinental Airport

The opening ceremony inaugurating the International Medical Visitor Service Center located in Terminal E took place at George Bush Intercontinental Airport on May 19, 2005. Eight Texas Medical Center (TMC) institutions, including UTHSC-H, Baylor College of Medicine, Memorial Hermann Hospital, The Methodist Hospital, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, and The University of Texas M D Anderson Cancer Center, are collaborating to extend hospitality to their overseas visitors arriving in Houston. The center also serves as a window to showcase TMC institutions.

2c International Population

Source
Rose Mary Valencia
Office of International Affairs

The Office of International Affairs processes visa requests and provides assistance to the international populations of several Texas Medical Center institutions, including the health science center, UT M D Anderson Cancer Center, the UT Harris County Psychiatric Center and the Texas Heart Institute. The information below is based on student, faculty and staff international representation for all of these institutions collectively, as of September 2005.

Largest Student, Faculty & Staff Representation by Country

Country	Number
China, Peoples Republic	1,149
Philippines	853
India	868
Mexico	465
Canada	251
Nigeria	222
Japan	133
Vietnam	134
Iran	102
Korea	121
Grand Total	4,298

Total International Population by Component

Institution	Number
UT M D Anderson Cancer Center	4,397
UTHSC-H	2,049
Texas Heart Institute	22
Grand Total	6,468

VISA Status of the UTHSC-H International Population

VISA Type	Number
F VISA	373
H VISA	201
J VISA	130
O Visa	6
Permanent Resident	1,270
Other	69
Grand Total	2,049

