

Sources

Hui-Ming Chang
University Administration

For more information on the Office of International Programs, please contact Dr. Hui-Ming Chang, Vice President for International Programs & Special Advisor to the President at 713 500 3559.

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, the 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
Chile	University of Chile, The School of Medicine University of Valparaiso
Colombia	Pontificia University Javeriana Universidad del Norte
Costa Rica	Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica
Czech Republic	Charles University, 1st Medical Faculty
Egypt	Ain Shams University of Cairo
Finland	University of Turku
Georgia	Tbilisi State University
Hungary	University of Debrecen
India	Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences Rajiv Gandhi College of Engineering at Sriperumbudur
Israel	Tel Aviv University The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Japan	Gunma University Hiroshima University, Graduate School of Health Sciences Hokkaido University Kanagawa Dental College Kyoto University, The Graduate School of Medicine The University of Tokushima Tokyo Dental College Tokyo Women's Medical University University of Fukui, the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the Faculty of Medical Sciences 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	The University of Balamand, Faculty of Medicine
Mexico	Monterrey Institute of Technology & Higher Education Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana, Unidad Xochimilco

Country	Name of University/Institution
Nicaragua	Instituto Nicaragüense de Seguridad Social Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Nicaragua - Leon
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 Shanghai Jiao Tong University, School of Medicine Soochow University, Department of Nursing Southern Medical University The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University Wuhan University Xi'an Jiaotong University
Poland	Medical University of Łódź
Republic of China	Chang Gung University Fu-Jen Catholic University
Sierra Leone	Ministry of Health & Sanitation, Government of Sierra Leone
Spain	MDA Holding Spain S.A. University of Lleida Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Thailand	Chiang Mai University Mahidol University Prince of Songkla University
The Netherlands	Maastricht University The 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 & Dentistry Overseas, a Division of Health Volunteers Overseas Vietnam Education Foundation Fellowship Program

Multinational*Freeman-EAS: Hurricane Katrina, Emergency Assistance for Students from East and Southeast Asia*

The Institute of International Education created the Freeman-EAS, sponsored by the Freeman Foundation, to assist undergraduate and graduate students from East and Southeast Asia in the US who had been directly affected by Hurricane Katrina. The Office of International Programs sponsored the applications of 10 students from Tulane University who enrolled at UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and UT School of Public Health. All ten students received the award. They were: Ms. Ming-Jin Chang, Ms. Yi-Ju Chiang, Mr. Chung-Yuan Hu, Ms. Yu-Jing Huang, Ms. Yen-Ling Lai, Mr. Kai-Ping Liao, Ms. Hsiao-Hang Lin, Ms. I-Wen Pan, Mr. Shih-Feng Weng, and Mr. Yi Zhou.

Fulbright Scholars

The Fulbright Program, established in 1946, is aimed to increase the mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. It is sponsored by the US Department of State and provides funding for students, scholars and professionals to undertake graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and educating in elementary and secondary schools. The Office of International Programs assists scholars in immigration matters, settlement, procedural and administrative steps to facilitate their arrival and stay while in the US. Also, throughout their visits, Dr. Chang hosts meetings for the scholars and their faculty hosts. This year the Office of International Programs and Medical School's Department of Internal Medicine Division of Cardiology welcomed Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Mogammad Faadiel Essop, Senior Lecturer at the Hatter Institute for Cardiology Research at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Under the direction of Heinrich Taegtmeier, Dr. Essop conducted research on the role of elevated fatty acid utilization in the development of cardiovascular disease.

Latin America Media Visit

Celia Morales of the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau led a delegation of ten journalists from various parts of Latin America to visit the Texas Medical Center from February 7-10, 2006. The delegation included: Rosa Maria Agudelo, Jorge Olazo Davalos, Omaira DeLeon, Milagros Duran, Henry Mejia Leon, Sheyla Mosquera, Lucia Navas, Sonia Perilla, Sandra Valdez, and MariCarmen Rello Velásquez. Dr. Chang gave an overview of UTHSC-H, Karen Krakower presented the HealthLeader and Darla Brown gave a tour of the medical school. The visit was organized by the International Affairs Advisory Council of the Texas Medical Center and sponsored by Continental Airlines, and the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau.

President's Executive Luncheon

UTHSC-H hosts the President's Executive Luncheon as a public service for the Houston community several times a year. The event features presentations by UTHSC-H faculty discussing current issues in medicine and science. The Office of International Programs hosts consuls from countries around the world within the Houston area. This event provides the opportunity for consuls and faculty to interact and learn more about the university. With over 85 consulates established in Houston, the Office of International Programs has hosted consuls from six continents.

Summer Research Program

The Summer Research Program provides medical students with first-hand biomedical research experience in the basic or clinical sciences and research training at UTHSC-H. In 2005, the Office of International Programs opened this program to international medical students. Since then international enrollment has increased each year. Through a program agreement signed between UTHSC-H and students' partner institution, the accepted students spend 8 weeks of the summer conducting hands-on research with established faculty researchers at the medical and dental schools. The international students also experience student life in the US by interacting with their medical student mentors. Under the summer research program, UTHSC-H has hosted students from Fu-Jen Catholic University in the Republic of China, Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education in Mexico, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine in the People's Republic of China.

Ireland

The Office of International Programs facilitated a post-graduate intern, Joanna McCarthy, from Cork, Ireland to conduct research with Dr. Ferid Murad, 1998 Nobel Laureate and Scientific Director at the UT Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases.

Nicaragua

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua-León (UNAN-León) and Instituto Nicaragüense de Seguro Social (INSS)
The Office of International Programs and Dr. Sarah Felkner welcomed Dr. Rodolfo Peña and Dr. Aurora Aragon of the UNAN-León and Lic. Sandra Balnaced of the INSS to UTHSC-H on May 22, 2006. The delegation met with Dr. Michael McKinney, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, where he presented them with a fully signed original copy of the Agreement of Cooperation between UNAN-León and UTHSC-H. Collaboration interests were discussed between the UNAN-León and UTHSC-H. The Agreement of Cooperation between INSS and UTHSC-H was previously signed in April 2006. These agreements enhance Dr. Felkner's projects and recognition of UTHSC-H in Latin America.

People's Republic of China

Vice Minister of Education

Her Excellency Dr. WU Qidi, the Vice Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, led a delegation to visit the UTHSC-H and the Office of International Programs on December 2, 2005. Accompanying the Vice Minister were Dr. ZHANG Yaoxue (Director General of the Department of Higher Education), Mr. WANG Yajie (Deputy Director of the Department of Graduate Education), Mr. WANG Jiping (Deputy Director - General of the Department of Vocational Education), Mr. YANG Jun (Director of Division of American and Oceanian Affairs), and Ms. ZHAO Jing (Secretary to the Vice Minister). The delegation was greeted by President James T. Willerson, MD and Richard W. Wainerdi, PhD (President, TMC). The UTHSC-H executives and deans introduced the University and its six schools to the Vice Minister. President Wainerdi gave a presentation about the Texas Medical Center. Vice Minister spoke about China's current educational system. The round-table discussion was followed by a visit to the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Afterwards, the delegation met with Denton A. Cooley, MD (President and Surgeon-in-Chief, Texas Heart Institute, clinical professor of surgery at the UT Medical School at Houston) who introduced and discussed the Texas Heart Institute and guided the Vice Minister through the Wallace D. Wilson Museum.

Peking University

Dr. DONG Zhe from Peking University visited UTHSC-H and the Office of International Programs on April 4, 2006. President James T. Willerson, MD met with Dr. DONG and signed the renewal of the Agreement of Cooperation with Peking University. Dr. DONG also met with Dr. George M. Stancel, Dean of the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Dr. Victoria P. Knutson, Assistant Dean of Admissions for the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and discussed possible collaborations between the two universities.

Poland

Lockheed Martin Corporation Poland Offset Program

On June 15, 2006, The University of Texas and Lockheed Martin Corporation's joint Poland Offset Program invited UTHSC-H to an all day program organized by UT Austin's IC2 Institute. The Biotechnology Collaboration and Showcase Program featured a showcase of the latest biotechnology from Poland. The delegation from Poland met with Dr. Thomas Caskey, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the UT Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases and National Academy of Science member, and participated in an exclusive tour of the Institute. Dr. Chang discussed possible collaborative efforts with Dr. Andrzej Rahczenko of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland and Dr. Henryk Piekarski of the University of Lodz in Poland.

Republic of Sierra Leone

Minister of Health and Sanitation

The Office of International Programs welcomed Her Excellency Abator Medwin Thomas, Minister of Health and Sanitation for the Republic of Sierra Leone to the UTHSC-H on June 5, 2006. The Honorable Minister Thomas gave a presentation on the state of health in Sierra Leone as it relates to post-war development and challenges with a great emphasis on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Dr. Michael W. Ross, Professor of Behavioral Sciences at the UT School of Public Health with several research projects in Sierra Leone, led an interactive discussion between the Honorable Minister Thomas and the attendees. The Honorable Minister Thomas signed an Agreement of Cooperation with UTHSC-H that established a common interest in cooperation and collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

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. The Memoranda of Understanding between the VEF and UTHSC-H, School of Public Health and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences were signed in 2005. The signed Memoranda of Understanding with the schools make stipulation for ongoing recruitment and enrollment of future candidates sponsored by the VEF. There are currently 12 students enrolled in the two schools: nine in the UT School of Public Health and three in the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

International Population 2006

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 12, 2006.

Largest Student, Faculty & Staff Representation by Country

Country	Number
China, Peoples Republic	1,257
India	923
Philippines	922
Mexico	497
Nigeria	236
Canada	195
Taiwan	170
Vietnam	141
El Salvador	132
Korea	125
Japan	120
Grand Total	4,718

Total International Population by Component

Institution	Number
UT M D Anderson Cancer Center	4,742
UTHSC-H	2,087
Texas Heart Institute	16
Grand Total	6,845

VISA Status of the UTHSC-H International Population

VISA Type	Number
F VISA	384
H VISA	159
J VISA	166
O Visa	2
Permanent Resident	1,278
Other	114
Grand Total	2,103

