



Scoop



Nat'l. Stroke
Awareness Month

Friday, May 7, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

- **Bridging Grant Applications** due to **Dr. John Byrne**, MSB 7.046, Fri., **May 14**.
- **UT-Police Dept. Open House**, Tues, **May 18**, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., 7777 Knight Rd.
- **Faculty Wives & Women Faculty Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m., Wed., **May 26**.
- **Senior Awards Ceremony & Dean's Reception**, 6 p.m., Fri., **June 4**, Hornberger.
- **Graduation**, 10 a.m., Sat., **June 5**, George Brown Convention Center.

UTmost Interest

Dr. Marian Krusel, Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, will speak at the 4th International Conference on Lactoferrin in Sapporo, Japan... **Dr. Barbara Murray**, Internal Medicine, spoke at the 73rd meeting of the Japanese Society of Infectious Diseases, and at the the Infectious Diseases Society of Venezuela, the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, and at grand rounds, Georgetown University Medical School and George Washington School of Medicine.



Hot News

TMC'S FOOD DRIVE '99

Still a good cause, and coming at 'ya on **July 16**, Webber Plaza. Last year's efforts collected



Art Car
D u s t y
Dave the
Dolphin, at
'98 Food
Drive

over 57,000 pounds of food (350 lbs. from the Medical School), and \$17,800 for the Houston Food Bank.

Research Retreat - Registration for the Medical School Research Retreat, next **Oct. 15-16, 1999**, is underway. Registration deadline is next Friday, **May 14**; call 713-500-5633.



Don't Forget
- Sunday, May 9.



Dr. Barbara Murray

DR. BARBARA MURRAY HONORED

Dr. Barbara E. Murray, Internal Medicine, director of the Division of Infectious Diseases, and co-director for the Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens at UT-Houston, has received the 37th Annual Marion Spencer Fay National Board Award of MCP-Hahnemann University. This achievement is awarded annually to a distinguished woman physician/scientist. The award includes a \$10,000 award to the awardee. **Murray** is the first recipient from Texas since **Dr. Benji Brooks**, a Medical School pediatric surgeon, received the first award in 1963.

DR. JOANN MOULDS COORDINATES MALARIA PROJECT

Dr. Joann Moulds, Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, is hosting a visiting physician, **Dr. Lalla Kassambara**, from Mali, West Africa. She will be here for three weeks for training on their collaborative project investigating CR1 polymorphisms and severe malaria. Joining Dr. Kassambara when she returns to Mali in June will be **Ms. Jaime Middleton**, a junior at Rice University. Middleton worked in Dr. Moulds' lab on the malaria project last summer, as part of the Summer Undergraduate Research Program at UT-HHSC. This summer Middleton will continue her malaria work as part of the Fogarty International Research Training Program, National Institutes of Health. The aim of the program is to encourage under-represented undergraduate and graduate students to pursue research careers in parasitology and immunology; entomology; remote sensing and geographic information systems; and clinical medicine and tropical diseases. French is the spoken language and is required in the clinical setting, but not in the research area. Said Dr. Moulds, "I'm very excited to have Dr. Kassambara here and look forward to a strong and communicative partnership in our fight against malaria. We'll be happy to have Jaime back in our lab when she returns, as well."



Dr. Joann Moulds, left, with
Ms. Jaime Middleton

SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE LAUNCHES

As the first graduating classes to reach their milestone *25th Reunion*, the Medical School classes of '73 and '74 are raising funds to establish scholarship endowments to continue the legacy of their medical school experience. Class agents **Dr. Bertram Garrett**, ('73), and **Dr. Jack T. Holladay**, ('74), will present the gifts at the Commencement Awards Program on Friday, **June 4**.

IT'S CLASS REUNION TIME FOR '73, '74, '79, '89, & '94 GRADS

Reunion '99 is next Friday, **May 14**, and Saturday, **May 15** for the classes of 1973, 1974, 1979, 1989 and 1994. A reception here at the Medical School on Friday will kickoff the weekend, followed by a CME program Saturday morning at the Houston Post Oak Doubletree with members of the reunion classes presenting, and a family picnic at the school Saturday afternoon. The Doubletree will also host Saturday's evening dinner. For more information on the reunion events, call **Sondra Ives**, director, Admissions and Alumni Affairs, 713-500-5121.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

L. Maximilian Buja, M.D., Dean
Bryant Boutwell, Dr.P.H., Assistant Dean
Colleen O'Brien, Editor
e-mail: cobrien@dean.med.uth.tmc.edu
FAX: (713) 500-0597

E-Scoop online: <http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu>

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BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN ACADEMIA & COMMUNITY – PHYSICIAN-STYLE

Promoting a good working partnership between UT-Houston's academic medical center and community physicians is the long-range objective of **Dr. Jordan Lovy**, medical director of University Care Plus (UCP). "As a physician group we realize that under managed care more of our patients come from referrals from physicians in the community," said Lovy, who is an assistant professor in the Division of General Medicine and also has an adjunct appointment at the School of Public Health.



Dr. Jordan Lovy

UCP's strategy includes a triangular partnership among the Medical School, community physicians, and managed-care companies. Already UCP, the contracting arm of the Medical School physician practice plan, has joined the Memorial Hermann Healthnet Providers and has assembled a primary care network in the community for UT employees who select the Dual Option Point of Service for their health plan. "More partnerships are needed. Our goals can be met if UT-Houston physicians reach out to the community on a consistent basis and work in partnership with our colleagues in the community," added Lovy.

Another strategy to enhance UT's presence in the community is the UCP Speakers Bureau, and continuing medical education (CME) courses for community doctors. "We want community physicians to view us as a partner in helping them care for their chronically-ill patients presenting complex cases, without fearing loss of input into the care of their patients."

Lovy believes that what will cut costs in the long term is to focus on identifying patients with chronic illnesses and those at risk for disease, and finding ways to better care for them before their disease becomes advanced. "This cost-will-follow-quality approach is, in my opinion, the best way of keeping quality high and cost under control."

In this new approach, the level of care the patient is receiving is elevated and UT physicians return the patients to their primary-care physicians. The bottom-line has a positive impact on the cost of care for both employers and managed care companies. "It's a win/win."

NIH REGIONAL GRANTSMANSHIP WORKSHOP TODAY

NIH speakers **Dr. Suresh Mohla, Diane Bronzert, Syed Quadri, Ron Lubet, and Andrew Vargosko**, are in town today, Friday, **May 7**, 9 .am.-noon, at the M.D. Anderson Hickey Auditorium, R11.1400. New directions in basic-science funding; frequent mistakes made by applicants; new initiatives in clinical funding, including SBIR/STTR funding; how study sections operate, NCI chemoprevention research priorities and funding opportunities; and young investigator and training awards, will be addressed. All UT-Houston faculty, postdocs, trainees, graduate assistants, and project investigators are invited to attend the free Q&A session. For further information, call 713-792-3305.



THE EYES HAVE IT

Many volunteers are needed for a vision screening exhibit running from **June** through **August** at the Museum of Health and Medical Science. No special skills or training are required. If interested, call **Dr. Judi Kellaway**, Ophthalmology, 713-500-5990.

NEW YOGA CLASS BEGINS

Due to an overwhelming response, an ongoing Yoga class will begin Monday **May 17**, 6 - 7 p.m. Beginners welcome. The class will be held in the Fitness Center's aerobics room, (dress comfortably in layers.) All yoga participants must be members of the Fitness Center. Class fee is \$10/month.



Dial 911 for "Brain Attack"

According to a recent study, stroke, an interruption of blood flow to the brain, occurs in dramatically higher numbers than previously thought. Speech, movement, and memory can be affected. Stroke, costing the nation \$30 billion a year, is **the** leading cause of brain damage in adults and is the third leading cause of death in the nation. Approximately 700,000 strokes, 200,000 strokes higher than previous estimates, occur in the U.S. annually. (Source: *Stroke: A Journal of the American Heart Association*, Feb. '98). Although stroke can occur in children and young adults, the highest risk group for stroke, people over 75, know the least about it. Here are the warning signs:

- Numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg
- Difficulty speaking or understanding
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking or loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache (often described as worst headache imaginable)
- Dizziness when accompanied by one or more warning signs.

The first few hours after a stroke are a critical window for possibly reversing damage. The Hermann Stroke Treatment Center, led by **Dr. James Grotta**, of the Medical School's Dept. of Neurology, is the only center of its kind in the south central U.S.; call 24 hours a day, 713-704-2500. People at risk include those who have hypertension, diabetes, who smoke, and who are under chronic stress.

OWH SEEKING CLINICAL SCIENTIST CANDIDATES

Do you know someone who could enhance their career status in an area related to women's health? The Office of Women's Health (OWH) may be able to help. The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is soliciting applications for their 1999 Clinical Scientist Awards in Translation Research. The aim is to develop outstanding physician scientists. Translation research is the two-way transfer between basic research and patient care. Candidates should have an MD or MD/PhD degree and hold an appointment or joint appointment in a subspecialty of clinical medicine. The award is \$750,000 over five years (\$150,000 per year). The deadline is **July 9, 1999**. Call 713-500-3075.