



# Scoop



Friday, October 8, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

## EVENTS TO KNOW:

- TODAY, **5th Annual Research Day**, Fri., Oct. 8, 12:30 - 3:30 p.m., Hornberger Center.
- TODAY, **First Regional Anesthesia International Symposium: Lower Extremity Peripheral Nerve Blocks Single Injection Techniques**, Fri., Oct. 8, 9 a.m. - 5:45 p.m., MSB 3.001.
- **Boss's Day Sale**, sponsored by MS Employee Relations Committee, Thurs., Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and Fri., Oct. 15, starting 8 a.m., Leather Lounge.
- **Party In The Park**, Fri., Oct. 15, HMB Park, 2 - 6 p.m.
- **Medical School 1999 Research Retreat**, Fri., Oct. 15, and Sat., Oct. 16.

## UTmost Interest

**Dr. Ronald Portman**, professor and Director of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology and Hypertension, was named chairman of the executive committee of the newly formed International Pediatric Hypertension Association in Dallas. ..**Dr. Peter**



Hot News

**Doris**, Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases, Research Center for Human Genetics, was appointed a member of the editorial board for the journal *Clinical and Experimental Hypertension*.

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE PROPOSALS DUE NOV. 1

Proposals for Faculty Development Leave are due **November 1** in the Office of Faculty Affairs, 7.130 MSB. See <<http://deanweb.med.uth.tmc.edu/Faculty/gfdlp.html>> for guidelines, or call 713/500-5100.

**UTMS FITNESS CENTER** – What are your chances of developing breast cancer? Stop by the Leather Lounge **today**, “Breast Cancer Awareness Day,” to find out. Fitness Center representatives will be on hand between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and refreshments will be served.

On Tuesday, **Oct. 12**, 5 a.m. - 8 p.m., the Fitness Center, located on the 8th floor penthouse, will hold an “Open House.” All are invited to drop by for free prizes, snacks, aerobics, blood pressure and body fat screenings.

## DR. MICHAEL POOLE NAMED NEW INTERIM CHAIRMAN

**Dr. Michael Poole** has been named interim chairman for the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery effective October 1, notes **Dean Maximilian Buja**. Dr. Poole, a professor who holds both medical and research doctoral degrees (microbiology) assumes leadership for the department in replacement of **Dr. Charles M. Stiernberg**. Dr. Stiernberg has recently assumed major new Medical School responsibilities as Senior Medical Director for the new office of Ambulatory Operations and Medical Director of University Care Plus (see *Scoop* 9/24/99). Notes Dr. Buja, “I’m delighted Dr. Poole has accepted this leadership role as he has proven to be a tremendous asset to both the department and the School since his arrival from the University of Florida School of Medicine in 1996.” Dr. Poole received both his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of North Carolina and is recognized nationally for his teaching, research, and clinical accomplishments. He is widely published and serves on the editorial boards of leading journals in his field.



Dr. Poole

## MEMORIAL HERMANN ACQUIRES THREE HOSPITALS

Memorial Hermann Healthcare System announced the acquisition of three hospitals and the sale of another, bringing to 13 the number of hospitals in the system.

Memorial Hermann acquired Fort Bend Medical Center and Katy Medical Center from Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation, Gulf Coast Division. The two hospitals will now be known as Memorial Hermann Fort Bend Hospital and Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital. Memorial Hermann Pasadena Hospital was sold to Columbia/HCA.

Beaumont Regional Medical Center and the assets of a closed Silsbee hospital, purchased in the name of Baptist Hospital Southeast Texas from Triad Hospitals, Inc., will be operated by Memorial Hermann. The Baptist system is affiliated with Memorial Hermann. Triad Hospitals is a recently organized spin-off company of Columbia/HCA. The Beaumont hospital will now become part of Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital. Future use of the Silsbee facility is yet to be decided.

## DR. DICKEY SPEAKS ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY GUIDELINES

**Dr. Nancy Dickey**, the Medical School’s Year 2000 commencement speaker, 1998 President of the American Medical Association, and 1976 graduate of the UT-Houston Medical School, motivated an estimated crowd of 250 at the Houston International Community Health Summit, Friday, Sept. 24, at the Crowne Plaza hotel. Addressing the afternoon’s topic of “Community Health and Cultural Competence,” she outlined her thoughts on “cultural competency,” including:

- Move our medical schools toward electives that address cultural competency
- Write a curriculum and training program for residents and graduate students that address cultural complexity issues

Dickey concluded with, “You need a ticket to get into the system. The poor and immigrant populations have limited access to that system. This issue needs to move to the top of our political candidates’ agenda.” **Dr. Maria Ferris**, conference chair and assistant professor, Pediatrics, wrapped up the afternoon session, thanking panel participants for their challenging and thoughtful analyses of today’s health care delivery system to diverse populations.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

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**NAME THAT BOOK: FACULTY WIVES/WOMEN FACULTY ORGANIZATION CHALLENGE TO THE MEDICAL SCHOOL**



What's in a name? A lot, according to the Organization of Faculty Wives and Women Faculty (FWWF). The group is spearheading the creation of their silver anniversary cookbook, whose sales will produce scholarship money for UT-Houston Medical School students.

**FWWF President Cathy Weisbrodt** says, "Our goal – our dream – is to raise \$25,000 to help students. And we believe a catchy title will help sell the book."



The cookbook-naming contest is open to every person associated with the Medical School – students, faculty, staff, administrators, and their family members. To enter, simply send your suggestions by e-mail to <ms\_special\_projects@uth.tmc.edu> or hard copy to *Cookbook Naming Contest*, Office of Community Affairs, MSB, G.004. The cookbook-naming deadline is **December 1**.

The winner will be credited in the book, honored at a book party upon its publication and receive a special republication copy.

What's an appropriate title? "We wish we knew," says Weisbrodt adding, "It might suggest where we are (UT-Houston, Texas), what we do (UTDOCS!), or what we like to eat these days." Besides your suggestion for a name, please share a recipe for the book. The recipe deadline is **November 15** and forms are available in Community Affairs, MSB, G.004.

The cookbook is slated for publication next year. Co-chairing the project are **Anne Ribble** and **Blanche Tyson**. "Since we are all in the business of promoting good healthy living, any hints you can give for cutting fat and salt, using ingredients or suggesting healthy alternatives to old favorites will be greatly appreciated," Tyson says.

Volunteers are also needed to test recipes, which will be evaluated after three testings and included at the committee's discretion. The FWWF is seeking funding to make possible a nutritional analysis of each recipe.

**PROFILE ON MEMORIAL HERMANN HOSPITAL / MEMORIAL HERMANN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**



- ◆ Memorial Hermann Hospital (MHH) was the first hospital in the Texas Medical Center, established in 1925.
- ◆ The UT - Houston Medical School first affiliated with Hermann Hospital in 1969.
- ◆ New Hermann Pavilion opened August of 1999, with 800,000 square feet.



◆ New Hermann Pavilion houses the Memorial Hermann Hospital Women's Center, Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital (MHCH), a new Trauma/Emergency Center, and a new Life Flight communications center.

◆ Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital has 150 beds for the care of infants, toddlers, children and adolescents, 88 neonatal beds, and a Pediatric After-Hours Clinic.

- ◆ MHCH's Respite House provides respite care services to families with children who have multiple medical disabilities.
- ◆ Expectant mothers stay in a relaxing, home-like environment on the Hermann Pavilion's fifth floor. There are 35 labor, delivery, recovery



and post-partum suites. Well new-borns room-in or are cared for in a charming low-risk nursery.

◆ The new central atrium connects Cullen, Jones and Robertson Pavilions.

◆ The new Memorial Hermann Trauma/Emergency Center includes 8 major trauma suites, 2 dedicated to pediatrics, 4 cardiac care rooms, and a fast track area, open from 11 a.m. - midnight, for treatment of minor emergencies.



**SECC CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF THIS WEEK THROUGH NOV. 5**

The State Employee Charitable Campaign is under way through **November 5**. The UT-HHSC was #1 in contributions for the Gulf Coast area last year. This year's campaign theme is "Keeping UT-Houston #1 in 1999." **President M. David Low** commented, "The campaign offers all UT-Houston employees the opportunity to help address a number of different needs - including homelessness, the elderly, health care, the environment, and substance abuse." Contributions are accepted as either one-time donations or through payroll deduction. Leadership Givers, with donations of \$240 each, will receive special recognition pins. All participants will have a chance at a \$500 grand prize drawing in Travel Gift Certificates.

**GIBSON AND MARTHA GAYLE PROFESSORSHIP ANNOUNCED**

**Dr. Richard S. Ruiz**, chair, Ophthalmology and Visual Science, has announced the establishment of the **Gibson and Martha Gayle Professorship**. Created by the Hermann Eye Fund in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Gayle, the Professorship recognizes the Gayles' community involvement and long-time advocacy of patient care. Mr. Gayle, a retired Senior Partner of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., is president of the M. D. Anderson Foundation and a Life Member of the Texas Medical Center's Board of Directors. The Gayles have also supported the teaching, research, and public service activities of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, as well as of the Hermann Eye Center, which was founded by Ruiz, who is also president of the Hermann Eye Fund.