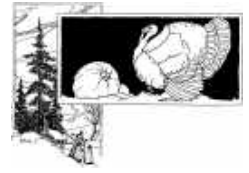




Scoop



Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov. 25 & 26, Observed
Holidays

Friday, November 19, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

► Dean's Lecturer, Nobel laureate **Dr. Ferid Murad**, "Cellular Signaling with Nitric Oxide," Tuesday, **Dec. 7**, 4 p.m., MSB 3.001.

UTmost Interest

Wed., **Dec. 1** is the contest deadline for naming the Faculty Wives and Women Faculty Assoc. cookbook. Email suggestions to <UTCOOKS@aol.com>...**Dr. Jeanie McMillin**, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine was appointed a member of the American Association of Investigative Pathology Committee on Career Development, Women and Minorities...**Dr. Thomas O. Clanton**, Orthopaedics, was elected to the Council of the International Federation of Foot and Ankle Societies in Kyoto, Japan...**Dr. Jerry S. Wolinsky**, Neurology, was named the first Bartels Family Professor in Neurology. His clinical investigations encompass controlled drug trials in multiple sclerosis and investigations of the pathogenesis of MS lesions by proton spectroscopy.

NOTE - Due to the holiday season, *Scoop* issues will not be published Thanksgiving (11/26), Christmas (12/24), and New Year's (12/31).



HOLIDAY FAIR - DECEMBER 2

Don't forget! The 14th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair is just around the corner on Thursday, **December 2**, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., in the Leather Lounge.

WREATH DECORATING CONTEST

Deck the Halls! The Employee Relations Committee (ERC) is sponsoring a Wreath Decorating Contest for office doors. Judging will be Monday, **Dec. 13**. Winners will be announced at the Dean's reception, Dec. 14. Turn entries in by Friday, Dec. 10. Contact **Kim Edmonson**, x7293, for entry forms.



HOLIDAY RECEPTION - Tuesday, **Dec. 14**, 11:30 a.m., Leather Lounge, is the Dean's Holiday Reception.

PAUL COOPER TO ASSUME UCP LEADERSHIP

Effective Monday, **Nov. 22**, **Paul P. Cooper III** will assume the position of President and CEO of University Care Plus (UCP), the 501(a) not-for-profit physician corporation and managed-care arm of the UT-H Medical School faculty practice plan, announces **Dean Maximilian Buja**. Cooper has an extensive background in managing both HMOs and physician practices, including leadership roles with United HealthCare (Houston Health Plan CEO 1995-98), Healthspring, Inc. (Chief Operating Officer), and Prudential (VP Health Care Policy). He received his undergraduate degree from Rice University, graduate degree from Tulane University, and is a chartered life underwriter (CLU) with the American College of Life Underwriters. He has served on the Board of Directors with the Washington Business Group on Health and has published articles on health affairs and healthcare costs.



Paul P. Cooper III

Comments Buja, "Paul Cooper has impressed us with his knowledge and insight as a consultant to UCP. Now, on behalf of the UCP Board, I am delighted to welcome him as a full-time leader to our organization. We look forward to many years of working together to the benefit of the faculty practice plan and the Medical School."

UT BOARD OF REGENTS OKS BUILDING PLANS

A six-year capital improvement program (CIP) was adopted November 11 in Dallas by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System. For the System's six health institutions, the CIP includes projects with costs of \$426.9 million at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston; \$241.4 million at the UT-Houston Health Science Center; \$151.5 million at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas; \$96.7 million at the UT Medical Branch at Galveston; \$88.8 million at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio; and \$20 million at the UT Health Center at Tyler. (See *Houston Chronicle*, 11/12/99).

It is very important to remember, notes **Dean Maximilian Buja**, that these are not dollars in hand but approval to raise funds and plan ahead for new construction at these levels. With the exception of funds already raised for new construction for the Nursing School, the \$241.4 million in capital improvements approved for UT-Houston will have to be raised. The good news, he notes, is that we can now begin serious discussion of much needed Medical School facilities expansion with the commitment of **President M. David Low** and the Board of Regents endorsement — understanding that each major construction project must be brought to the Board for individual approval. Other good news is that the voters of Texas approved constitutional amendment Prop 17, which will give the Board of Regents greater flexibility in accessing the Permanent University Fund (PUF) for the various CIP projects. However more specifics about the Regents' plans will not be available until after their February meeting.

DR. WEINSTOCK PARTICIPATES AT WHITE HOUSE MEETING

Dr. George Weinstock, professor, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, co-director, the Center for the Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens and co-director, the Human Genome Sequencing Center at Baylor, was part of the *Millennium Council at the White House*, Oct. 12. Entitled "Informatics Meets Genomics," the event included 100 invited guests from the genomics field, computer industry, government, and scientific agencies, visiting with President Clinton.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

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**Produced weekly by the Office of Community
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November Employee of the Month - Carla Maywald

Carla Maywald, our November Employee-of-the-Month, is 23 years with what is now the Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology. An Editor IV and accomplished folksinger/songwriter in her own right, she's somehow found, if not the fountain of youth, at least the fountain of renewal. Says Carla, "I love my job. It's an exciting time in our department. There's a growing feeling of team spirit that's great to be a part of."



Carla assists **Dr. Stanley Schultz** in editorial responsibilities, including the scientific journal, *News In Physiological Sciences*. In addition, she aids the department by handling special projects. She's best known for efficiently keeping busy scientists, who are also editors and contributors, on schedule. Her other special skills include her excellent way-with-words, her astute comments, her exceptional organizational skills, and her attention to details. Carla, born in Texas City, graduated a psychology major at Lamar University in Beaumont. She has a 17 year-old son, **Sol**, a mother, **Dorothy**, and sisters, **Gail** and **Vicki**. For self-expression, she has just recently released her first CD album of original songs, *Challenge Number Nine*, available at Cactus Music and Video, and cut at the Heights Sound Studio. She and fellow musician, **Joel Gevirtz**, have performed at the annual Kerrville Folk Festival and sing regularly at venues around town, including Anderson Fair, the Mucky Duck, and Linda Lowe's Writers In The Round.



This year, Carla got a chance to lend support to a physiology meeting in Prague, and four years ago, traveled to Maastricht, The Netherlands, for the Federation of European Physiological Societies. As part of her job, she helped out in St. Petersburg, Russia, two years ago and will go to Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2001 for the International Congress of Physiological Sciences.

Carla projects a professional attitude. Co-workers still talk about how she managed a well-organized and gracious holiday party for her large department. And when a staff position was unexpectedly vacated, she became known for calmly volunteering to recruit an excellent replacement. As Carla sings in one of her verses, "Time waits for no one/Get your feet back on the ground." This is one individual who definitely has her own feet planted firmly on the ground.



Dr. George Stancel

GSBS MOVES TO HOUSTON MEDICAL CENTER BUILDING (TRAVIS AT SOUTHGATE)

Dr. George Stancel, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS), notes that the Houston Medical Center (HMC) Building, Suite 300 at 6655 Travis at Southgate, is now the official home for the GSBS as of Nov. 15. The move represents an intermediate step as the GSBS awaits the projected 2003 completion date of its permanent site in the planned M. D. Anderson Basic Science Research Building. For 23 years the GSBS was housed next to the Houston Main Building on Holcombe, adjacent to the School of Public Health.

The GSBS mailing address continues to be P.O. Box 20334, Houston, TX 77225-0334; and the inter-institutional mailing address will be GSBS, HMC 300. Telephone and e-mail addresses remain the same.

DR. GOLDMAN RECEIVES EDITOR'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Dr. Stanford M. Goldman, chair, Department of Radiology, was notified by **Dr. Anthony Proto**, editor of the journal, *Radiology*, that he has been selected as a recipient of the "1999 Radiology Editor's Recognition Award" for reviewing with "distinction." Only 70 of the journal's 995 reviewers have been selected to receive this award.

FYI - Dr. John H. Rex, Internal Medicine,

Infectious Disease, was selected for funding in the amount of \$119,549, for his project, "Development of Algorithms for Management of Systemic Candida Infections," by the Academic Medicine and Managed Care Forum/1999 Quality Care Research Fund. Awards are funded by Aetna, SmithKline Beecham, Schering Plough, Merck, Hoechst Marion Roussel and Novartis.



Dr. Roger Bick

DR. BICK PRESENTS FLORESCENT IMAGING TALK

Dr. Roger Bick, associate professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, was a visiting professor to the Institute for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He presented a talk entitled "Fluorescence Imaging in Cellular Dysfunction." His visit stems from a collaboration with **Dr. Stephen Milner**, who investigates natural skin antimicrobials. Their study involves researching the epithelial matrix to augment cadaver skin, cultured epithelial cells and commercial available support matrices in the treatment of large burns and full thickness burns. Bick is also director of the Multi-User Fluorescence Imaging and Microscopy Center here.



DR. DEPRE WINS AHA AWARD

Dr. Christophe Depre, Internal Medicine, Cardiology, won the Melvin Marcus Young Investigator Award at the recent 72nd Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association (AHA) in Atlanta, Georgia. His paper on "Separate Pathways Control the Genomic Response and the Trophic Adaption of the Heart to Mechanical Stress In Vivo" was selected from a group of six finalists. The Annual Scientific Session of the AHA was attended by more than 20,000 physicians and scientists from around the world. "This is a great honor for the lab" commented Depre's mentor, **Dr. Heinrich Taegtmeier**, Internal Medicine/Cardiology. Taegtmeier's lab examines metabolic, molecular and genomic mechanisms underlying the normal and abnormal function of the heart.