



Scoop

Fri., March 22, 2002

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

March

25 Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Seminar Series. **Dr. Ann Stock**, professor, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, "Phosphotransfer Mediated Signal Transduction in Bacteria," 11:45 a.m., MSB 2.135.

Health Care & the Arts Lecture Series. "That's Why We're Here," a drama about HIV/AIDS and substance abuse, by Motherland, Inc., noon, MSB 3.001.

April

2 Walter M. Kirkendall Lecture Series, **Dr. David Goff**, noon, Room 2.103.

UTMost Interest

Angelea Earhart, fourth-year UT-H medical student, recently won first place as a student presenter for her abstract "A surgical training curriculum for hearing impaired individuals in obstetrics-gynecology," with several co-authors, including **Dr. Larry Gilstrap**, chair, OB-GYN, at the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics and Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology meeting in Dallas...**Dr. Michael Saunders**, a postdoctoral fellow of **Dr. Kenneth K. Wu**, Internal Medicine, is the recipient on the International Aspirin Young Researcher's Award in 2002. This award was given to Dr. Saunders in recognition of his work on elucidating a new mechanism of aspirin.

OF NOTE - The State Department has made modifications to the "automatic revalidation of visa" benefit, effective April 1. Citizens of "state sponsors of terrorism" (currently Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Sudan, North Korea, and Cuba) will no longer be able to take advantage of the automatic revalidation benefit. For more information, contact the Office of International Affairs, 713-500-3182.

INTRODUCING CLINICAL ETHICIST DR. EUGENE BOISAUBIN

What is the subject of ethics? The state of Texas requires every physician in Texas – all 48,000 – to have an hour of ethics, every year. Clinical ethics is a relatively new endeavor in medicine.



Dr. Eugene Boisaubin

Clinical ethics attempts to answer some of life's tough questions, such as what's enough, or what's too much, in response to changes in medical progress. Medicine can now offer technologies like mechanical respirators, can treat failing kidneys, can prolong the life of cancer patients with experimental drugs, or do genetic testing. The medical profession faces mounting external pressures from managed care and increased governmental regulation. All of these issues involve ethics.

Since January of this year, **Dr. Eugene Boisaubin** has come on board at the Medical School as a professor, Internal Medicine, and an ethicist for Clinical Research, General Clinical Research Centers (GCRC). He says there is a loose consortium of six to seven doctors here who currently are involved with ethics issues. As a new member of the Memorial Hermann Hospital Ethics Committee and Consultation Service, he has already observed the typical ethical problems of a hospital: the majority of which are end-of-life dilemmas, often prompted by a breakdown in communication between patient and family, patient and doctor, or family and doctor.

Dr. Boisaubin obtained his medical degree from the University of Missouri, completed his internal medicine internship and residency at Baylor College of Medicine, and took graduate studies in medical ethics at the Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University. He most recently came from the Institute for the Medical Humanities, UTMB.

His duties here are twofold, both academic and clinical. He is associate director of the residency program, Internal Medicine, where he currently is establishing a professionalism and ethics curriculum. As part of the residents' training, he will teach the core ethical standards in medicine, as well as cultural sensitivity and how to cope with physician stress, impairment, and well-being. The curriculum will cover a spectrum – from classic ethics to the broader issues of professionalism throughout the entire residency. It will eventually branch out into pediatrics and family medicine over the next two to three years. And as part of his ongoing role as patient advocate with the GCRC, he deals with informed consent issues, patient safety issues, and assuring ethical compliance with clinical research protocols in the work of the GCRC.

- C. O'Brien

NEW MASTER'S DEGREE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH AVAILABLE

A Master's Degree Program in Clinical Research was recently approved. The Center for Clinical Research & Evidence-Based Medicine plans to enroll students in September 2002. Candidates who have successfully completed the Clinical Research Curriculum will be allowed to apply 10 credit hours for this program toward a Master's Degree in Clinical Research. Additional course work, practical, and thesis project(s) will be required for successful completion. For more information, see <<http://ped1.med.uth.tmc.edu/neo/center-home.htm>>, or call 713-500-6708.



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INAUGURAL MASTER TEACHER PROGRAM RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The purpose of the Medical School Master Teacher Program is to provide explicit and tangible support from the Dean for faculty who are heavily involved in educational activities. The first group of recipients in the inaugural Master Teacher Program have been named and are listed below. Awards in FY 2003 have been made in the categories of Direct Teaching, Curriculum Development/Enhancement, and GME/Impacting Undergraduate Medical Education.

"This first group of master teachers are known throughout the Medical School for the quantity and quality of their teaching activities and are recognized by other faculty and students as dedicated and effective teachers," said Dean Max Buja, M.D.

"The explicit support of faculty for educational activities and curriculum development will undoubtedly directly benefit the education of our medical students at all levels," said Patricia Butler, M.D., associate dean for educational programs.



"Introduction of Clinical Correlates into the MSI Biochemistry Course via the Utilization of Active Learning Strategies," **Dr. William E. Seifert**, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

"Emergency and Technical Skills Courses," **Dr. Elizabeth B. Jones**, Emergency Medicine & Pediatrics

"Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine Throughout the Curriculum," **Dr. Janet Y. Groff**, Family Practice & Comm. Medicine; **Dr. Donald Molony**, Internal Medicine; and **Dr. Virginia A. Moyer**, Pediatrics

"Family Practice Community Clinic Teaching Program," **Dr. Jose Bayona**, Family Practice & Comm. Medicine

"Innovative Curriculum in Professionalism for Residents," **Dr. Eugene Boisaubin**, Internal Medicine

"Development of Teaching Tools to Provide a Stimulus for Interaction Between Fundamentals of Clinical Medicine and Physical Diagnosis Course," **Dr. Philip R. Orlander**, Internal Medicine

"Endocrinology/Reproductive PBL Working Group," **Dr. Victor R. Lavis**, Internal Medicine

"Patient-Centered Clinical Education," **Drs. Fabrizia Faustinella, Laura Colletti, Philip Orlander, and Harinder Juneja**, Internal Medicine

"Continuation and Development of Involvement in Educational Activities," **Dr. Kevin W. Finkel**, Internal Medicine

"The Art of Observation," **Dr. Glenn A. McDonald**, Internal Medicine

"History and Physical Evaluation of the Geriatric Patient," **Dr. Radu Ciubuc**, Internal Medicine

"Night Train -- After-Hours Ambulatory Clinic/Practice Sessions," **Dr. Stanley Lewis**, Internal Medicine

"Training and Physical Examination Techniques and Patient Sensitivity During 3rd Year Internal Medicine Rotation at LBJ General Hospital," **Drs. Cheves Smythe, Lidia Stana Ilcus, and Niraj Mehta**, Internal Medicine

"Demonstration and Observation of History and Physical Exam Techniques on the 3rd Year Internal Medicine Inpatient Rotation," **Drs. John Patlan, Philip Johnson, and Niraj Mehta**, Internal Medicine

"Teaching Programs at LBJ Hospital," **Dr. Bela Patel**, Internal Medicine

"Integration of Radiology into the Gross Anatomy Course," **Dr. Len Cleary**, Neurobiology & Anatomy

"Teacher Training for Medical Residents," **Dr. Mya C. Schiess**, Neurology

"Direct Clinical Teaching in Obstetrics/Gynecology," **Dr. Edward R. Yeomans**, Obstetrics, Gynecology & Repro. Services

"On-Line Method for Peer Review in PBL & Evaluation of Students' Performance in PBL," **Dr. Lincoln Gray**, Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery

"Implementation of New ACGME General Competencies," **Dr. Margaret O. Uthman**, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

"Development of Model Teaching Program in an Outpatient Setting," **Dr. Michelle Barratt**, Pediatrics

"Utilizing Radiology to Enhance the Understanding of Human Anatomy," **Dr. Larry A. Kramer**, Radiology

"Initiation and Implementation of New Program for Third Year Students Rotating at Hermann Hospital," **Dr. Terrence H. Liu**, Surgery