



Scoop

June 14, 2002

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

'HOUSTON MEDICAL' DEBUTS JUNE 18

Memorial Hermann Hospital will host a premiere of "Houston Medical" in the hospital's atrium, when it airs for the first time on ABC at 9 p.m. Tuesday, **June 18**. Join us from 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and meet the "stars," enjoy theater treats, then watch the show on two big screens.

Due to space constraints, attendance is limited to employee partners, volunteers, medical staff physicians, UT-Houston Medical School friends, and special guests. Free parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis in the Hermann Garage. More information on the series can be found on www.abc.com.

Events to Know

June

19 Dean's Town Hall Meeting, noon, MSB 3.001.

20 Memorial Hermann Hospital Blood Drive, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m., New Pavilion Atrium ground floor. Call 713-704-4898.

UTMost Interest

Dr. Richard Bradley, Emergency Medicine, will deliver his "Tropical Storm Allison Devastated the Texas Medical Center" address at the World Conference on Disaster Management and the Centre for Emergency Preparedness in July in Toronto...**Dr. C. S. Raman**, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, is a plenary speaker at the Second International Conference on the Biology, Chemistry, and Therapeutic Application of Nitric Oxide (June 16 - 20), and Hypertension Prague 2002 (June 23 - 27), both conferences to take place in Prague...**Dr. Pedro Ruiz**, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, recently received the 2001 NAMI Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill during the Annual Convention of the American Psychiatric Association in Philadelphia.

ONE YEAR LATER - A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

It is hard to believe that it has been a year since Tropical Storm Allison blew in, dramatically changing our lives and destroying much of our work and work environment. As we know it right now, the Medical School sustained an estimated \$102,000,000 in losses as a result of the June 8 devastation, according to **Jerry Ellis**, vice president and chief quality officer. Despite the magnitude of these losses, I am pleased to report we are well on our way to recovery.

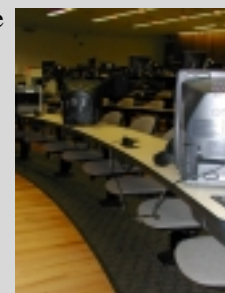


Dean Max Buja

And although it is not in a perfect state, much progress has been made on the renovation of the Medical School Building and our efforts to restore normalcy.

Some of our major accomplishments this past year include:

- ◆ Creation of a temporary Learning Resource Center
- ◆ Creation of a temporary school lounge
- ◆ Creation of a temporary gross anatomy lab
- ◆ Renovations of the elevator cabs
- ◆ Deconstruction of the basement and ground floor
- ◆ An agreement with a temporary food service truck
- ◆ Relocation of the Student Health Clinic to the Hermann Professional Building
- ◆ Restoring our charges and collection rates at the UT Physician Offices to near pre-Allison numbers
- ◆ Restoration of medical records in the Hermann Professional Building physician offices



Temporary Learning Resource Center

Funding is key to create permanent renovations and hazard mitigation measures, which will put the electrical and air handling units and animals out of harm's way and includes vaulting parts of the basement with submarine doors. These hazard mitigation efforts will ensure that we are not subjected to the same level of disastrous impact the next time the city floods. With so many groups involved, however, securing funding for our renovations and hazard mitigation efforts has been a laborious task.

Although the building will still be on "life support" with external generators until February 2003, progress is being made daily. I will host another town hall meeting at noon **June 19** in MSB 3.001 to update you on the latest status and answer any questions you may have. Even though the repairs have not been as speedy as we all would have liked, I want to extend my appreciation to each and every one of you for your hard work and patience during this time. I am proud that we have been able to work together to carry on our mission despite this setback, and I look forward to the creation of a new and improved Medical School, with your help.



The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston
Medical School

L. Maximilian Buja, M.D., Dean
Darla Brown, Manager
e-mail: M.Darla.Brown@uth.tmc.edu
Colleen O'Brien, Editor
e-mail: Colleen.L.O'Brien@uth.tmc.edu
Phone: 713-500-5114; FAX: (713) 500-0597
E-Scoop online:
<http://deanweb.med.uth.tmc.edu/comm/scoop/>
Produced weekly by the Office of Community Affairs and Public Education



Celebrating Teaching Excellence**DR. EUGENE TOY RECEIVES JOHN P. MCGOVERN AWARD**

The John P. McGovern Award is given annually to the outstanding clinical faculty member as chosen by the senior class. This year's recipient is **Eugene Toy, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences.

Dr. Toy has served as a clinical assistant professor here for six years, while seeing patients at his practice at St. Joseph Hospital. He also is the academic chief and program director of the residency program at St. Joseph Hospital and the director of the obstetrics and gynecological junior clerkship program there, which is for third-year students. Dr. Toy received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Toy's innovative approach to clinical learning focuses on hands-on problem solving.

"I strongly believe that teaching needs to be clinically based and problem based — that it needs to be taught at the level of the students, and the students need to be challenged," he said. "Previously, I found that the majority of teaching had been centered on students memorizing facts, or learning from a textbook, but not being able to apply it in a clinical situation. In my course, I give a brief paragraph of a clinical situation, and the students will use that to answer clinically relevant questions. From their answers we incorporate the basic science element so that it is really a problem-solving approach."

This method of teaching is the basis for Dr. Toy's soon-to-be published textbook, *Case Files in Obstetrics and Gynecology*. **Drs. Patti Ross and Larry C. Gilstrap II** are co-authors of this book.

Dr. Toy received first place for a research project presenting this teaching approach at the annual meeting of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics last year and said he also was very pleased to receive this teaching award from his students. "I feel incredibly honored and am humbled that the students would select me as the recipient of this prestigious award," he said. "In my daily work, my greatest joy and passion is to teach medical students."

This award is made possible by an endowment from the McGovern Foundation. **Dr. McGovern**, founder of the McGovern Allergy Clinic, has maintained a deep interest in excellence in teaching at the Health Science Center, where he holds faculty appointments. Winners since 1990 include: **Drs. Frank C. Arnett, Jr.** (2000), **Octavio Pinell** (2001, 1999, 1997, 1995), **Edward Yeomans** (1998), **John F. Donnelly** (1996, 1993, 1990), **James T. Willerson** (1994), **John M. Passmore** (1992), **Herbert L. DuPont** (1991).



Dr. Eugene Toy

GSBS SATELLITE OFFICE NOW HOUSED IN JFB G.708

Dr. George M. Stancel, Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) and Interim Exec. VP for Research, recently announced the establishment of a GSBS office in the John Freeman Building (Room G.708) to provide faculty and students more centralized access to the GSBS. **Dr. Paul Darlington**, associate dean of the GSBS, will staff the office. Says Dr. Stancel, "It is our hope that this new location, especially given the construction in the Medical Center area, will make it more convenient for students and faculty at the Medical School, Dental Branch, and M. D. Anderson to have direct access to a GSBS dean." While providing closer proximity to faculty and students, this location also facilitates Dr. Darlington's increasingly frequent interactions with architects and facilities personnel during construction of the new GSBS offices in the George and Cynthia Mitchell Basic Sciences Research Building.

The GSBS is currently located in the Houston Medical Center Building at 6655 Travis, Suite 300. Dr. Darlington, who continues to oversee the financial and administrative affairs of the Graduate School, can be found at the Houston Medical Center Building on Monday and Thursday mornings and in the Freeman Building (G.708, near the Bookstore) the remaining days of the week. His phone number in the Freeman Building is 713-500-5910. His e-mail address at both locations is <Paul.E.Darlington@uth.tmc.edu>.



Dr. Paul Darlington

CLINICAL RESEARCH CURRICULUM SCIENTIFIC WRITING WORKSHOP TO BEGIN JUNE 26

If you would like to augment your skills in writing grants and manuscripts, you are invited to participate in a summer Scientific Writing Seminar as part of the Clinical Research Curriculum of UT-Houston and M. D. Anderson. This will be an intensive workshop given at 5 - 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday from June 26 through Aug. 14, in MSB 2.135. All clinical faculty and fellows are invited. Call 713-500-5651 or 713-500-6708.

NIH-FUNDED CLINICAL RESEARCH CURRICULUM

The NIH-funded Clinical Research Curriculum for this academic year will begin Wednesday, **Aug. 21** in MSB 2.135. The first course will be Biostatistics in the fall, followed by Literature Appraisal, Ethics, Translational Research, and a Research Seminar in which participants will develop their own protocols. There is no charge for these courses, which are a core service of UT-Houston to help faculty members become skilled and productive clinical investigators. Please pass this information on to faculty and fellows who would be interested but may not be aware of it. Call 713-500-5651 or 713-500-6708.