



# Scoop

April 11, 2003

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

## Events to Know

### April

**11 Today, HIPAA education session, 9:30-10:30 a.m., MSB 2.103.**

**12 2nd Annual William Osler Memorial Softball Game** (Faculty vs. Residents). 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., UT Rec Center, Knight Road.

**15 HIPAA education session, 9:30-10:30 a.m., MSB 2.103.**

**16 2003 HUB Vendor Fair.** Historically Underutilized Businesses Fair, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Operations Center Bldg., Rio Grande Room, second floor. Shuttle service.

### May

**22 Annual Faculty Meeting, noon, MSB 2.006.**

### June

**7 Commencement, 10 a.m., George R. Brown Convention Center.**

## UTMost Interest

**Hui-Ming Chang, M.D., M.P.H.**, was elected to the Board of Directors of American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM). The AAPM is the only medical society in pain medicine recognized by the American Medical Association. Dr. Chang also chaired the scientific session of the 2003 annual meeting of AAPM.

## 10 YEARS OF SIROLIMUS

A ceremony marking the occasion of the first dose of a benchmark immunosuppressive drug, sirolimus, will take place at 8 a.m., on Mon., **April 14**, at the Hornberger Conference Center. The symposium will honor the late Suren Sehgal, Ph.D., the research scientist responsible for identifying the chemical compound from which sirolimus is derived.

**Barry D. Kahan, M.D., Ph.D.**, director, division of Immunology and Organ Transplantation, and the first clinician to administer sirolimus to a human, will host the symposium and present the topic, "Clinical Delivery of Sirolimus - One Thousand Renal Transplant Patients Treated for up to 10 Years."

## RAMAN BECOMES STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY CENTER DIRECTOR

With the support of the other structural biology faculty and key senior faculty in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department, chair **Dr. Rodney Kellems**, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, recently announced the appointment of **Dr. C. S. Raman** as director of the Structural Biology Research Center.



**Dr. C. S. Raman**

"In the several years that Dr. Raman has been a member of our faculty, he has demonstrated his enthusiasm and talent for structural biology research. He has earned the trust and respect of all of his colleagues," Dr. Kellems said.

Raman has received research funding from the Robert A. Welch Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trust, and the National Institutes of Health. Last year he was one of 20 Pew Scholars in the Biomedical Sciences chosen by Pew Charitable Trusts. The highly competitive national program supports junior faculty with \$240,000 over four years.

In 2002, he was the recipient of the nitric oxide society's young investigator award for outstanding achievements in the nitric oxide field. His laboratory utilizes X-ray crystallography in conjunction with biochemistry, cell biology, chemical genetics, molecular biology, and proteomics, to explore the molecular basis for how biological sensors work.

"I believe he will provide valuable and enlightened leadership for the Structural Biology Research Center," Dr. Kellems said.

## KVALE TO RETURN TO KERALA ON A FULBRIGHT GRANT

**Dr. James Kvale**, Family Practice and Community Medicine, has won a Fulbright grant to India, and will leave somewhere between the months of August and November, for Kerala, "God's Own Country," as the people of that state like to call it.

A tiny state, Kerala has a population of 29 million. It boasts -- for all of India -- the highest literacy rate, an incredible life expectancy, low birth rates (approximately 2.3 per family), and low perinatal disease and death, even though the average gross national product is around \$330 per person. Hardly anyone starts the day there without reading one of 40 newspapers or listening to the BBC's world news. Kerala has 50 technical training schools, 100 arts and sciences colleges, 30 professional colleges, and four universities.

"Kerala is a poor state because it has little industry; but it is a beautiful place," Dr. Kvale said. "I've been there four times before, working with a University of Michigan group. This time I will be involved in setting up a postgraduate training program in geriatric medicine." Kvale will be in Kerala an indeterminate time, from four to six months, to as long as 13 months.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and other countries through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills.



**Dr. James Kvale**



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



**COMPLEMENTARY/INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE IS THE TOPIC**

UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is sponsoring an Integrative Medicine Program Lecture at noon, Thurs., **April 17**, "Healthcare Policies and Legal Issues for Patients Who Want to Use Complementary Therapies," Hickey Auditorium, R11.1400. Lunch will be provided. For more information see the Complementary/Integrative Medicine Education Resources Web site at <<http://www.mdanderson.org/cimer>>.

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE PROPOSALS DUE**

Proposals for Faculty Development Leave are due Friday, **April 18** in the Office of Faculty Affairs, MSB 7.130. The guidelines allow for the submission of proposals twice a year and can be found at: <<http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu/faculty/guidelines.htm>>. For questions, call **Juanita Sunday**, 713-500-5103.

**BOOK DONATION** - The family of **Dr. Marnie Rose** has donated 10 boxes of books to be made available to the medical students for their use in the Learning Resource Center.

**CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION** - For \$5, from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., on Mon., **May 5**, in Webber Plaza, you'll get a taco salad meal, a drink, good fellowship, and good music! Sponsored by the Medical School Employee Relations Committee.

**NOTE:** On **May 16 and 17**, **Dr. Sudha Veeraraghavan**, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, is presenting a seminar on "Transcription Factors in Development" in The First Houston High Field NMR Symposium "Structure Solution to Biological Systems" at the Institute for Molecular Design, at the W.M. Keck NMR Center, University of Houston campus.

**EVACUATION NOTE** - Physical Safety has created an Emergency Evacuation Assistance Request form. The form is available online at the following Web site [http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut\\_general/admin\\_fin/fo/physafe/PhySafIndex.htm](http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/fo/physafe/PhySafIndex.htm)>. The form can be downloaded and e-mailed back to Physical Safety or printed off and sent back to Physical Safety Team at UCT 1880.

**Kathy Whitmire****CSW WELCOMES FORMER MAYOR KATHY WHITMIRE**

The Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston will welcome former Houston Mayor **Kathy Whitmire** to the campus Mon., **April 14**.

The presentation, which is free and open to the public, begins at 4 p.m. in Room 207 at the Dental Branch Building. A discussion moderated by CSW chair **Rena D'Souza, D.D.S.**, and a reception with light refreshments, will follow. Pay parking is available at The John P. McGovern Commons, at the corner of Bertner Avenue and Moursund Street.

Whitmire, who will make remarks on "Women Leaders Needed for a New Century," served as Houston's mayor from 1982-1992. She is the only woman to hold that office.

She is now a senior fellow at the James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership at the University of Maryland (see <[www.academy.umd.edu/AboutUs/staff/KWhitmire.htm](http://www.academy.umd.edu/AboutUs/staff/KWhitmire.htm)>). She has lectured extensively on women's leadership, local government, economic development, and community leadership to audiences throughout the United States, as well as Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

After leaving office in 1992, Whitmire joined the faculty of Rice University, where she was director of the Rice Institute for Policy Analysis and held the Tsanoff Lectureship in Public Affairs, teaching courses in public policy, management, and political science. In 1994, she was appointed president and CEO of Junior Achievement Inc. In 1995 and 1996, Whitmire served as a lecturer on public policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and as a fellow at Harvard's Institute of Politics.

The UT-Houston Committee on the Status of Women encourages open communication throughout the campus about the concerns of women in its faculty, staff, and student populations.

- S. Rasp

**FRIENDS OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM A SUCCESS**

*Editor's Note: The mission of "Friends of the Medical School" is to provide the Houston community with informative and educational programs on cutting edge medical research, as well as the most up-to-date information on education and clinical care, while promoting the theme of balanced excellence in the Medical School.*



**Dr. Gailen Marshall (r.) and Brad Howell (l.), chair, Medical School Advisory Council, chat at the "Friends" event.**

Nearly 100 guests attended the third in the series of "Friends of the Medical School" program held at the Warwick Hotel, Tues., April 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The featured speaker, **Dr. Gailen Marshall**, addressed "The Allergic March - What, Why & How to Stop It."

**Dean Max Buja** emceed the program.

If you would like more information on the "Friends" program, call **Debbie Gligor** at 713-500-5002, or e-mail her at <[Debbie.Gligor@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Debbie.Gligor@uth.tmc.edu)>.