



# Scoop

Jan. 17, 2003

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

## Events to Know

### January

**21 FWWF (Faculty Wives & Women Faculty) Cooking Class**, Central Market, Westheimer at Wesleyan, 6:30 - 9 p.m. To register, call 713-993-9860. Web site is <www.CentralMarket.com>.

**22 MSRDP Meeting**, 4 p.m., MSB 2.103.  
**Pathology Lecturer Dr. Bryon Petersen** to address hepatic stem cell research, 8 a.m., MSB 2.136.

**Ethics in Medicine, Dr. Amir Halevy**, "Physicians, Medical Students, and the Pharmaceutical Industry: An Uneasy Alliance," noon, MSB 2.006.

## UTMost Interest

**Dr. Pedro Ruiz**, professor and vice chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was appointed to the editorial boards of the journals *World Psychiatry* and *Annales Medico Psychologiques*.

## IN MEMORIAM — Glenn R. Knotts, Ph.D.



executive director for the Hermann Eye Fund and a nationally recognized foundation administrator and medical educator died Sun., Jan. 12 following an extended illness. Dr. Knotts came to Houston in 1975 to join M. D. Anderson Cancer. From 1985 - 88 he headed the Development Office of the UT Health Science Center before joining the Medical School's Dept. of Ophthalmology and Visual Science in 1989. His work with **Dr. Richard S. Ruiz**, chairman of the department and president of the Hermann Eye Fund, was a key factor in developing an impressive list of endowed faculty positions that has made the department and Hermann Eye Center one of the leaders in the country in eye care. A memorial service will be held at 5:30 p.m., Mon., **Jan. 27**, in Memorial Hermann Hospital's Cullen Rotunda.

## DENTAL BRANCH, MEDICAL SCHOOL MERGE BASIC SCIENCES

Dean **L. Maximilian Buja** and Dental Branch Interim Dean **Catherine M. Flaitz** recently announced the merger of the Department of Basic Sciences at the Dental Branch into the Medical School, effective **July 1, 2003**. The announcement comes after the approval by President **James T. Willerson** of the Guidelines for Merger of Basic Sciences in Medicine and Dentistry at UTHSC-H, which were developed through a planning process lead by Dean Buja, Dean Flaitz, and Executive Vice President for Strategic Affairs **Ronald Johnson**.

"This merger will allow us to collaboratively strengthen our educational programs and to promote the continued growth of the research programs of both schools," the two deans stated in a joint memo to faculty last week.

To facilitate this integration and lead the transition, two assistant deans for basic science education and curriculum have been appointed — **Norman W. Weisbrodt, Ph.D.**, professor in the Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology at the Medical School, and **Karen Adler Storthz, Ph.D.**, professor and current chair of the Department of Basic Sciences at the Dental Branch.



**Dr. Karen Storthz**

This merger will result in the basic science faculty at the Dental Branch becoming Medical School faculty in the School's appropriate departments. The expanded departments, under the administration of the Medical School, will be assigned to meet the basic science educational requirements of both schools, including the M.D. program, the D.D.S. program, the dental postgraduate programs, and the School of Dental Hygiene.

There will be no changes in the curriculum at either school as a consequence of the merger for the 2003-2004 academic year. Plans for any possible curriculum changes will be developed during the 2003-2004 academic year.

"Embarking upon this new educational alliance, we look forward to increased collaboration between the two schools as we finalize this restructuring while pursuing our missions," Drs. Buja and Flaitz stated.

Periodic faculty meetings will be convened at each school to answer questions as progress is made on the merger. - D. Brown



**Dr. Norman Weisbrodt**

## HEALTH EDUCATION AND NUTRITION AMONG FORUM'S TOPICS

The 13th Annual Preventive Cardiology Forum, hosted by **Dr. Francisco Fuentes**, Internal Medicine/Cardiology, will be 7 a.m. - 12:20 p.m., Sat., **Feb. 1**, in MSB 3.001.

Presenters from the Medical School include **Dean L. Maximilian Buja**, **Drs. Dianna Milewicz**, **Victor Lavis**, and **Stephanie Coulter**. **Dr. Edward Roccella**, National Heart, Lung and Blood Pressure Education Program, and **Dr. John Foreyt**, Baylor College of Medicine, also will make presentations. CME credit available. To register free, call 713-610-5088.



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