



Scoop

April 16, 2004

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

April

16, 17 Alumni Reunion. Register by calling 713-500-5121.

17, 24 UT House Medics. Volunteers to lend a hand with home repair efforts in the community.

May

13 Annual Faculty Meeting, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., MSB 2.006. Simulcast in LBJ auditorium, Room 217.

15 Bridging Grants Due. Send to **Dr. John Byrne,** MSB 7.046.

30 Commencement, 1 p.m., Assembly Hall, George R. Brown Convention Center.

NEW TEAM TO ADDRESS SCHOOL'S ADMIN/FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

The Medical School's Office of the Associate Dean for Management and Administrative Services has a new name – the Medical School Office of Finance and Administration. Effective April 12, **Nancy McNiel, Ph.D.**, associate dean for management at the School of Nursing for the past 13 years, was appointed director of administration at the Medical School.



Nancy McNiel, Ph.D. (l.), and Angela Hintzel

Angela Hintzel, a certified public accountant, assistant director of Practice Plan Finance at the Medical School since October 2003, has come on board as interim director of finance. Hintzel has worked in the health science center's financial arena for the past eight years.

"We are a team effort, Angela and I," McNiel said. "Our roles are still undefined and forming, but basically I am handling the administrative

and DMO side of our area, and Angela is handling budgets and financial reports. We're excited to be here and look forward to problem solving and paying attention to each part of the administrative and financial process that makes up the Medical School.

"People don't need to worry about the details of who handles what," she added. "If you have administrative and financial questions, bring them in and we'll sort them out. We're a new team but we're team players. We're optimistic that we can help our institution become more efficient and more profitable and figure out better ways to serve everyone."

McNiel's background includes overseeing and helping bring to fruition the new School of Nursing and Student Community Center, which is scheduled to open this summer.

McNiel said she is excited about the new challenges she is facing. "I'm looking forward to being able to use my building and renovation experience in a new place, getting to know everybody, and helping others with their issues and priorities."

In addition, McNiel said she feels that she's "moving back to my Medical School roots" because her doctorate is in pharmacology and she did a post-doctoral fellowship in physiology and cell biology at the Medical School. Additionally, she has worked in the basic sciences and in clinical areas of another health science center.

McNiel and Hintzel will report to **Kevin Dillon**, executive vice president for finance and business affairs, with secondary reports to **Interim Dean Stanley Schultz**. The directors of management operations (DMOs) and their equivalents, who formerly reported primarily to the associate dean for management, a position that has been eliminated, will report to Dillon for the immediate future.

OPEN HOUSE - Come celebrate the new leather lounge noon - 1:30 p.m., Tues., **April 27**, inside the Webber Plaza entrance of the Medical School. Punch and cookies will be served and formal remarks will be made at 12:30 p.m. in the new space.

UTMost Interest

Dianna Milewicz, M.D., Ph.D., the Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Scientist, director of medical genetics, and vice chair of the medical school's Department of Internal Medicine, was one of the main experts quoted in a series of *Wall Street Journal* articles winning a 2004 Pulitzer Prize in the category of "Explanatory Reporting" for her latest research about aortic aneurysms, an often overlooked medical condition that kills thousands of Americans each year.

OF NOTE - **Dr. Stanley Schultz** congratulates **Dr. Valentin Dragoi**, Neurobiology and Anatomy, who is to be named a Pew scholar, effective July 1.



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HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON
MEDICAL SCHOOL

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BRIDGING GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

Requests must be received by **May 15**, for a renewal grant application that has not been funded within the past 9 months by a federal agency and is within the top 35th percentile. Send to **Dr. John Byrne**, chairman of the Research Committee at MSB 7.046. Proposals up to \$30,000 for up to one year maintenance can be submitted. Include a statement letter from the PI's chairperson, a summary statement, the reviewer's comments, and description of continuing and new research. Please also provide the previous summary budget.

“WHAT’S EATING YOU AND WHY ARE YOU EATING IT BACK”

Scott “Q” Marcus, who refers to himself at a THINspirational speaker (due to his losing 70 pounds and keeping it off for almost 10 years), will share during insights and perspectives on the “non-eating” part of weight loss and improved health on two occasions. Talks are 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Wed., **April 21**, University Center Tower, Room 1505C, and 10 a.m.-noon, Thurs., **April 22**, Medical School Building, Room 2.135.

Marcus believes we know what we need to do; we just don't always do it because we feel we have to be perfect. Hence, Marcus helps change habits by teaching the value in “striving for ImpREfection.” Come prepared to be involved, have a good time, and learn how taking better care of yourself can actually be fun. Marcus is a member of the National Speakers Association, a Weight Watchers leader, and keynote speaker. (Although he has lost a lot of weight, he asks that if you see him at a restaurant, you don't inspect his plate. He promises to return the favor.)

Seating is limited, so for those who would like to attend, please RSVP via e-mail to <Sam.Hester@uth.tmc.edu>. Feel free to bring your lunch as they will provide you a cool drink!

HARD HAT UPDATE:

Fast Facts – The following are statistics on what's been added during the Medical School rebuilding efforts of the cyclotron, gross anatomy lab, Learning Resource Center, basement, and ground floor construction projects:

- 13 miles of conduit
- 51 miles of wire
- 117,000 square feet of drywall and carpet
- 6,210 cubic yards of concrete (over 200 concrete trucks)
- 791 tons of steel
- 620,000 man-hours.



BONE MARROW REGISTRY DRIVE APRIL 28

A Bone Marrow Registry Drive will take place, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Wed., **April 28**, Fifth Floor Gallery, at the Medical School. This event is sponsored by APAMSA (Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association) and NMDP (National Marrow Donor Program).

For more information, visit <<http://www.marrow.org>> or e-mail <jchen4@uth.tmc.edu>.

SOUP KITCHEN DAY, MARCH 22

First-year medical students gathered one recent Monday morning at Palmer Church to prepare a hearty breakfast for the homeless.



Jordan Smith whips up a tasty concoction.



Helping Jordan are Bri Iversen and David Pinto.



Pete Richardson (l. in white hat) and David Pinto (r.), help out.