

## Events to Know

### January

- 20 Annual MSRDP meeting**, 4-6 p.m. open to all MSRDP membership, MSB 3.001. Video available on the Web after the meeting under Hot Spots, on the Medical School home page.
- 27 Dr. Norman Hecht**, "mRNA Transport in Male Germ Cells," noon, MSB 6.018 - D.

## UTMost Interest

The "Policy on Appropriate Student Treatment" is listed under Hot Spots on the Medical School home page at <http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu>.

## THREE MEDICAL STUDENTS WIN RESEARCH WEBBER PRIZE

The Medical School's annual research forum held Jan. 8 offered an excellent opportunity for student researchers to have their research efforts reviewed and recognized by their peers and faculty mentors, in addition to competing for the C. Frank Webber Prize for Student Research. This year's C. Frank Webber Prize for Student Research winners are: **Owen Mogabgab**, MS II, first place, for "Phosphodiesterase inhibition reduced vascular permeability following spinal cord contusion injury." Owen was sponsored by **Dr. Raymond Grill**, Neurosurgery. **Melissa Van Arsdall**, MS II, won second place, for "Activation of PPAR $\gamma$  restores metabolic flexibility and improves contractile function in failing hearts from Zucker diabetic fatty rats." She was sponsored by **Dr. Heinrich Taegtmeier**, Internal Medicine. And **Teresa Smith**, MS II, won third place for "Mapping genes involved in multiple congenital anomaly syndromes and/or mental retardation." She was sponsored by **Dr. Hope Northrup** and **Dr. Kit-Sing Au**, Pediatrics. In addition to a monetary award and a plaque, winners also are eligible to attend a conference of their choice to present their abstract anywhere in the United States.



(L. to R.), Teresa Smith, Dean Schultz, Owen Mogabgab, and Melissa Van Arsdall

The Dean's Lecture Series at 4 p.m., Wed., Jan. 21 in MSB 3.001, will feature **Dr. Eric Boerwinkle**, professor and director, The Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases.

## GENOME EXPERT TO SPEAK AT DEAN'S LECTURE JAN. 21

Boerwinkle also is professor and director, Human Genetics Center at The University of Texas School of Public Health.

Boerwinkle will speak on the "Genetic Dissection of Complex Traits." He and his colleagues have completed the first ever genome-wide search for genes contributing to inter-individual blood pressure levels.



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(L. to R.) Cynthia Alvarado, Maria Sandoval, and Idalia Alaniz

## ADDRESSING THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

On Dec. 6, United Latin American Medical Students Association (ULAMS) members **San Juanita Garcia**, MS I; **Cynthia Alvarado**, MS II; **Maria Sandoval**, MS II; and **Idalia Alaniz**, MS II, participated in the second annual Health Fair "Posada Saludable" (Healthy Christmas Party) organized by the Mexican Consulate of Houston. Fifty-five adults were screened for high blood pressure. Physician members of the Hispanic American Medical Association assisted. Mexican Consul Eduardo Ibarrola praised the students. The event was coordinated by the offices of Public Affairs and Community and Educational Outreach.

## To Faculty, Staff, and Students

The MS I Class would like to extend an invitation to all those affiliated with the Medical School to join us in remembering the lives of those who donated their bodies to science.

The class 2007 will hold a memorial service for our cadavers at noon Thurs., Jan. 22. The ceremony will be held in the Fifth Floor Gallery of the Medical School Building. We hope to convey our sincere appreciation for those who chose to offer their bodies in hopes that others would have the opportunity to learn from them and improve future lives.

We hope that you will join us in honoring these special individuals. We are forever indebted to them for their gift of knowledge.

Sincerely,  
Sara E. Donley, MS I

**CORRECTION** - The Emergency Preparedness Training Class, a two-hour training for area safety liaisons, will take place, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Wed., Jan. 21, in the Fifth Floor Gallery. (Last week's *Scoop* stated the class was Tues., Jan. 13). Lunch will be provided and emergency kits will be distributed.

## MED STUDENTS ROUND UP HOPE AND TOYS

UT medical students from the first through the fourth years donated toys as their “tickets” to a holiday party the students held Dec. 19, after first-, second-, and third-year exams.

**Mark Ellis**, MS III and president of the Student Senate, rounded up the toys and delivered them -- Santa style -- to the Children's Assessment Center.



Mark Ellis on a mission.

The Assessment Center said they appreciated all the medical students who paid the “admission” to their Christmas party and were very grateful to have had such nice gifts for the children this past holiday.

## FACULTY PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS

An advisory team that included Medical School faculty recently completed the evaluation of 12 courses taught at Hightower High School Medical Sciences Academy in the Fort Bend County Independent School District.

The faculty included: **Drs. Kathleen Becan-McBride, Bryant Boutwell, Marilyn Edwards, Andrew Harper, Camille Lloyd, Donald A. Molony, Carlos Moreno, Gary Rosenfeld, Norman Weisbrodt, and Liliana Rodriguez.** The group reviewed academy courses in medical ethics, pharmacology, pathophysiology, microbiology, medical terminology, clinical nutrition, gerontology, mental health, introduction to medical science technology, and several medical science internships taught at Hightower since it opened its doors in 1998.

For the past five years, UTHSCH has provided support for teachers and administrators to provide the most advanced and appropriate curriculum as a means to develop a future state resource — the well-trained Hightower student going to college and ultimately to health professions or graduate schools.

## HCPC PATIENTS ARE IN NEED OF CLOTHING

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center serves more than 6,000 indigent patients each year and many come to the hospital with few clothes.

The Center is in desperate need of pants and tops, especially mens, as well as shoes, socks, sweaters, and coats.

The Center will provide a tax donation form to those donating items.

Donations can be delivered to UTHCPC, 2800 South MacGregor, sent through institutional mail to UTHCPC volunteer services, Room 3 A 31, or if the amount of clothing is large, call 713-741-7876 to schedule a pick up.

## ETHICS IN MEDICINE LECTURE SERIES IS BACK

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. So it is fitting that the Medical School has partnered up with the Holocaust Museum Houston to sponsor a special talk, “Nazi War Crimes of a Medical Nature: Current Research and Lessons,” at noon, Thurs., **Jan. 22**, MSB 2.006.

The speakers are **Alan Wells, Ph.D., M. Ph.**, a senior research associate at The Institute for Ethics, American Medical Association, and **Dr. Patricia Heberer**, a historian at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies.

The program will focus on the state of medical education in Weimar, Germany, with a look back at how the Nazi Party changed professional ethics so dramatically that the medical mandate to heal was transformed into the mandate to kill.

Other talks in the Ethics in Medicine Lecture Series, also at noon, in MSB 2.006, are:

- Tues., **Jan. 20**, **Paula Knudson**, special advisor for human subjects research, UTHSCH, “Preserving Confidentiality and Privacy in Research: Difficulties and Possibilities;”
- Tues., **Feb. 3**, **Judianne Kellaway, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of ophthalmology, UT Medical School at Houston, “Creating the Teaching Dream Team: The Ethics of Relationships in Medical Education;”
- Thurs., **Feb. 5**, **J. Ray Hays, Ph.D., J.D.**, Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine, “The Ethics of Caring for Psychiatric Patients;”
- Tues., **Feb. 10**, **Jacqueline Slomka, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of behavioral sciences and ethics, School of Public Health, “Cultural Conflicts in the Clinic: Coping Ethically with the Patient's Traditions;” and
- Thurs., **Feb. 12**, **Lois M. Ramondetta, M.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Gynecologic Oncology, The M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, “How Available Should Doctors Be to Their Patients?”

A CME credit of one hour is available. For further information, call 713-500-5080.

## ANNUAL MCGOVERN AWARD BANQUET WILL RECOGNIZE DR. RAKEL

Honoree **Dr. Robert Rakel**, Baylor College of Medicine, will present “Compassion and the Art of Medicine: The Role of the Humanities in a Caring Profession” on Wed., **Jan. 28**, at the annual John P. McGovern Award Banquet at the Houston Plaza Hilton. The occasion, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., is sponsored by the Southwest Chapter of the American Medical Writers Association. Dr. Rakel is the past head of family medicine departments at the University of California, Irvine, the University of Iowa College of Medicine, as well as Baylor College of Medicine.

Dr. McGovern is a physician, founder and director of the McGovern Allergy Clinic in Houston, and is a noted educator, author, and historian. The McGovern award is made possible through the generous support of Dr. McGovern.

Reservations are due by Fri., **Jan. 23**. See <http://www.amwasouthwest.org/News/0104n3ews.pdf>. Or for more information, contact **Penny Logan** at 281-863-3260, or [plogan@lexgen.com](mailto:plogan@lexgen.com).