



Scoop

May 21, 2004

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

May

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

31 UT Fitness Summer Membership Special, last day. 15 percent discount. Call 713-500-5044.

TOWN HALL MEETING JUNE 9

Interim Dean **Stanley Schultz** will host a Medical School town hall meeting at noon, Wed., **June 9**, MSB 3.001. Schultz will give an update on the construction efforts, financial status, and ongoing plans for the future of the School and will take questions from the audience.

Anonymous questions can be submitted prior to the meeting via e-mail to <Tiffany.l.Sheffield@uth.tmc.edu> chair, University Classified Staff Council. Lunch will be provided for the first 100 attendees.

UTMost Interest

Dr. Herbert DuPont was featured in the *Houston Chronicle* (5/16/04) for his work with the rifaximin pill for traveler's sickness...**Dr. Ferid Murad**, 1998 Noble Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, chairman, Integrative Biology and Pharmacology and director, the Institute of Molecular Medicine, received an honorary degree from DePauw University, his undergraduate alma mater. This is his seventh honorary degree. He also will be receiving the Santiago Grisolia Award from Spain, one of that country's most prestigious science awards. He also recently received an award of \$1.2M from the John S. Dunn Foundation to enhance his endowed chair and for his work with stem cells to complement his NIH grant.

SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM KICKS OFF MAY 24

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston's 2004 Summer Research Program will have over 54 undergraduate students and 36 first-year medical students spending 10 weeks this summer conducting laboratory research with Medical School faculty mentors and two of the students will do research with Dental Branch faculty.

The undergraduates come from Texas and throughout the United States. On Mon., **May 24** the students will participate in a day long orientation program kicked off in the morning with welcomes and introductions from Interim Dean **Stanley Schultz**, **Dr. Victoria Knutson**, assistant dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and **Dr. Gary Rosenfeld**, director of the Summer Research Program.

Part of the program is a weekly seminar series open to all health science center employees and the Texas Medical Center community. The first seminar will be at noon, Thurs., **June 3** in MSB 2.006. Check *Scoop* and the fliers posted each week for listings of speakers, subject matter, and locations.

For more information, contact **Jimmie Pope**, coordinator, Summer Research Program, 713-500-5334.

FLETCHER GARNERS ORTON AWARD

Dr. Jack Fletcher, co-director, Center for Academic and Reading Skills, Department of Pediatrics, recently received the Samuel Torrey Orton Award in San Diego. The Orton award is the highest honor given by the International Dyslexic Association (IDA). It is annually given to an individual who has made a vital contribution to the scientific understanding of dyslexia, significantly enhanced and advanced the capacity to successfully intervene and assist people with dyslexia, expanded national and international awareness of dyslexia, or demonstrated unusual competence and dedication in service to people with dyslexia.



Dr. Jack Fletcher

ANNUAL TMC FOOD DRIVE SET FOR JULY 15

The TMC Food Drive, part of the larger 17th Annual Channel 11 Spirit of Texas Food Drive, will take place 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Thurs., **July 15**. According to Mike Piana of the Houston Food Bank (HFB), there's been a 17 percent increase in requests for food.

The HFB supplies food for 230,000 people each month and that number increases during summer months as children are out of school and not receiving school-subsidized meals. The HFB supplies more than 400 food pantries and shelters in 18 southeast Texas counties. One dollar buys \$20 worth of food, the equivalent of 42 meals or 50 pounds of food. Ninety-five percent of the money donated on the Virtual Food Drive, located at <<http://www.houstonfoodbank.org>>, click on "secure online donation," goes to pay for transportation to distribute food. Items needed include: canned tuna; chicken packed in water; canned stews and pasta, easy on salt and fat; peanut butter; canned fruits in light syrup; natural applesauce; 100 percent juice cans or boxes; canned vegetables; tomatoes, tomato sauce; soups with meat and/or beans; meal-in-a-can, easy on salt and fat; cereals and cereal bars, easy on sugar and fat; pasta, spaghetti, macaroni, noodles; packages of dry beans. No glass containers, containers having rust, or expired date ranges, or missing labels, will be accepted. [Stay tuned; Scoop will have more updates on the TMC Food Drive.](#)



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HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON
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Celebrating Teaching Excellence

THE HERBERT L. AND MARGARET W. DUPONT MASTER CLINICAL TEACHING AWARD - DR. PHILIP ORLANDER

This year's DuPont recipient, **Dr. Philip Orlander**, is professor and director, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism in the Department of Internal Medicine. He is a multiple recipient of the Dean's Teaching Award, as well as numerous other teaching awards and honors.



Dr. Philip Orlander

The DuPont award was created to recognize the best among clinical teachers and to reinforce how important they are to the Medical School mission.

Dr. Herbert DuPont first joined UT Medical School in 1973 and is recognized as an international authority on infectious diseases. He is the Mary Kelsey Professor in the Medical Sciences as well as the chief of Internal Medicine Services at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. **Drs. Ian Butler, Frank Arnett and Patrick Brosnan** are past DuPont Master Clinical Teaching Award recipients.

Orlander has done extensive research, writing, and grant work on the subject of diabetes — as well as mentored many fellows. His division oversees a wide sphere of endocrinologic influence — from hospitals to specialized clinics — such as reproductive endocrinology and oncologic endocrinology.

More than 10 years ago, Orlander with his colleagues started working with the standardized patient concept and applying it to the medical school curriculum. "We've been using the standardized patient concept with good success," Orlander said. A standardized patient exam, he said, will be incorporated into the national board exam for the first time this year.

"Standardized patients are people who are taught to mimic disease. Students take their history and sometimes, have to give these patients bad news about their diagnosis," he explained.

In addition, Orlander is chair of the Curriculum Committee for first through fourth year medical students.

For the last two years, Orlander has been involved with the Health and Human Spirit group. "There are so many talented people and excellent teachers in this school. I'm fortunate to be able to collaborate with them."

Orlander received his medical degree from Free University of Brussels, Belgium, and did his postgraduate training, residency, and endocrinology and metabolism fellowship at the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, Conn.

- C. O'Brien

UT MEDICAL STUDENT TO BE FEATURED ON DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Amie Osborn, a fourth-year Medical School student, is among six people who will be featured in a documentary called "Unmasked: Treacher Collins Syndrome" in June on the Discovery Channel. The program airs at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. CST **June 3** and again at 11 a.m. **June 5**.

Osborn, who graduates May 30, shares her story of triumph over the physical and emotional challenges that patients with Treacher Collins syndrome often face.

One in 10,000 babies is born with the genetic, craniofacial birth defect, which is marked by distinctive facial anomalies and can cause hearing, breathing and eating problems.

John Teichgraber, M.D., professor, Department of Surgery, also is featured in the documentary. He was one of Osborn's surgeons and encouraged her to go to medical school and become a physician.

To learn more about Osborn and Treacher Collins syndrome, tune in to the Discovery Channel special and also visit Osborn's Web site at <http://www.trauchercollins.org>.

- M. Raine

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK JUNE 3 - 6

In support of the Children's Miracle Network, a first ever Celebration Sponsor Fair will take place 6 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs., **June 3** at Memorial Hermann Hospital, first floor conference room, Hermann Pavilion. Celebration Telethon, featuring stories of "Miracle Families," will take place **June 5 - 6** on Channel 11. For more information visit <http://www.cmn.org> 1073.

UT OUTREACH AT RELIANT CENTER'S BLACK EXPO

The UT Health Science Center at Houston participated in Black Expo — a first-time event at Reliant Center, Sat., May 15. Thousands attended the event, which included health, job, and leisure topics and booths. The health science center coordinated two different screenings at no charge, and physician referral information was provided by UT Physicians.

The Center on Aging performed vision screenings with the help of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, while the BARI 2D study program offered blood pressure screenings and recruited those who qualified for the study. Researchers with the BARI 2D program are studying how best to improve outcomes for patients who have diabetes and heart disease.

FIRST EVER NIKAI DOH AWARD GIVEN

MS III **Jacqueline Chen** received the first Toshi Nikaidoh Leadership and Service Award, with a \$500 scholarship, from the Student InterCouncil at the organization's Dean's Reception April 29.

Chen was selected based on her commitment to service, leadership, and to the community.

Chen is the Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association president. She has spent time in Mexico and East Asia caring for patients and teaching English to health-care workers, among her volunteer efforts.



Jacqueline Chen's mom (r.), congratulates her.