



Scoop

April 29, 2005

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

May

- 5 Cinco de Mayo Day**, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., mariachi music in the Leather Lounge. Enchilada Dinner, \$6. Sponsored by the Employee Relations Committee.
- 9 Center for Membrane Biology Seminar, Dr. Kevin MacKenzie** to address a mitochondrial apoptosis mediator, 11:45 a.m., MSB 2.135.
- 11 TOWN HALL MEETING**, noon, MSB 1.006. Lunch for first 100.
- 11 DEAN'S LECTURER, Dr. Randy Schekman**, "Mechanism and Disease Implications of Intracellular Vesicle Traffic," 4 p.m., MSB 3.001.
- 19 ANNUAL FACULTY MEETING**, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., MSB 2.006. Lunch for first 150. Telecast LBJ Annex, Rm. 217, UT auditorium.
- 28 Commencement**, 10 a.m., George R. Brown Convention Center. Commencement speaker is **Dr. Catherine D. DeAngelis**.

UTMost Interest

Dr. Marilyn Edwards, Internal Medicine, served as chair of the Evidence-Based Medical Nutrition Education Symposium at the April 2 American Society for Clinical Nutrition meeting in San Diego...**Dr. Frank Moody**, Surgery, recently was awarded a Gold Medallion from the International Hepato-Pancreatic-Biliary Association, for his important contributions to the understanding and treatment of diseases of the liver, biliary tree, and pancreas.

BURN OUT CENTER

DISHES UP MEALS & CHEER

The Organization of Parents and Friends is providing hot food to medical students at 7 p.m. on the following nights: Tues., **May 3**, "Italian Night;" Wed., **May 4**, "Po Boy Night;" and Thurs., **May 5**, "Mexican Night," in the Leather Lounge near the new Student Affairs office, opposite the green elevators.

BOSTON MARATHONER IS A BIG FITNESS CENTER FAN

Fresh from completing the Boston Marathon, **Dr. Charles Miller**, associate professor and chief, Clinical Research and Outcomes Section, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, is hitting the Medical School's Fitness Center once again, working up a sweat for the next big race.



Dr. Charles Miller

Miller is an avid athlete. Since becoming a regular at the Fitness Center six years ago, he's lost 30 pounds, completed three marathons, and scaled Pike's Peak Ascent. "It's half a marathon, but we're talking about running from an altitude of 8,000 feet to 14,000 feet," said Miller.

Miller, also an associate professor, Center for Clinical Research & Evidence-Based Medicine, was attracted to the Medical School, at least in part, he said, because of the availability of the Fitness Center. "I like UT's pro-exercise attitude, as well as the professional networking the Fitness Center provides. I signed up as a Medical School faculty member in September of 1999," Miller said, "and before my first paycheck, I'd also signed up with the Fitness Center."

Miller said that the Medical School gets a gold star for offering an on-site fitness facility for employees. "The Medical School Fitness Center is an important resource for us and needs our continued use and support," he added.

"I'm a single dad; so running for an hour-and-a-half after work is not an option," Miller said. "During lunchtime, I do strength training three times a week, and a 24-week program of either running on the treadmill in inclement weather, or running at Rice or Hermann Park. In the summertime, having a shaded place to run makes the difference between being able to distance run, or not."

- C. O'Brien

TOWN HALL MEETING WITH DEAN STANLEY SCHULTZ MAY 11

Mark your calendars. At noon on Wednesday, **May 11**, in MSB 1.006, **Dean Stanley Schultz** will give updates and share his vision and plans for the Medical School. **Richard McDermott**, vice president, Facilities Planning and Engineering, will address the construction of the new six-story research building. All are invited. Lunch will be available for the first 100. Anonymous questions can be sent in advance to <Alexis.L.Basha@uth.tmc.edu>.

FITNESS DISCOUNT IS FUN, CONVENIENT HEALTH OFFER

Summer is upon us and the Fitness Center, located on the 8th floor of the Medical School, offers us a healthy way to shape up with a 15 percent discount on a three-month membership. The membership includes use of the UT Recreation Center, 7779 Knight Road.

The savings are on through Tues., **May 31**. Bring your ID for purchases and renewal of memberships. Guest fee options also are available. There's summer swim lessons and children's camp, ages 7-12, at the Knight Road facility. Contact **Chucky Son**, 713-500-8422, or <Chucky.L.Son@uth.tmc.edu>.

For more information, call the Fitness Center at 713-500-5044. The UT Rec Center's phone number is 713-500-8420, or visit <<http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/recreat/index.html>>.



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A part of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

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Alumni Reunion 2005**SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES**

The 2005 UT Medical School Alumni Reunion was held April 15-16 in Houston.

Alumni from as far away as Hanover, NH and Seattle returned to reconnect and reminisce with classmates and favorite faculty during dinner at Trevisio and later at a picnic in Webber Plaza.



Alumni Reunion '05, L. to R.: **Kelly Flesner-Gurley, M.D., '95**, **Amy Hairston**, and **Lara Longo, M.D., '95**.



Alumni Reunion '05, L. to R.: **Robert Hart, M.D., '85**, **Janet Mitchell, M.D., '85**, and **Ken Mitchell, M.D., '85**, reminisce with **Olga Maloney, Shaun Maloney, M.D., '85**, and **Susan Nelson, M.D., '84**.

CREFF FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR JUNIOR FACULTY AND FELLOWS

The University Clinical Research Center (UCRC) announces the availability of Clinical Research Feasibility Funds (CREFF). The funding for this program has more than doubled since last year due, in large part, to matching funds from the Dean's Office.

The purpose of CREFF is to provide an opportunity for junior faculty and fellows to gather clinical research pilot data in preparation for submission of applications to extramural funding sources.

A one-hour meeting will be held at 4 p.m. Mon., **May 16** at the UCRC, located at Memorial Hermann Hospital, Robertson Pavilion, 6th floor, Room 657, for those interested.

CREFF funds are designated for clinical research projects; however, funds also may be used for personnel support for the investigator or technical assistance, software (i.e., statistics) purchases, equipment, and laboratory supplies, as long as they are related to clinical research at the UCRC.

For 2005, a total of \$30,000 is available to support the program through the NIH and the Dean's Office. It is expected that two or more awards of up to \$15,000 per project will be made. Funding is for one year and is nonrenewable. Funds must be spent prior to the end of the UCRC fiscal year, February 2006.

Deadline for applications is Tues., **May 31**, with CREFF awards announced in early August 2005 after review and selection by the Scientific Advisory Committee.

For information about the UCRC and requirements to apply for CREFF funding, log on to the UCRC website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/uth_orgs/crc>.

The CREFF application (download), as well as information and guidelines regarding CREFF, are available at the UCRC Web site.

BECOME A MEMBER - JOIN THE ERC

Sheila Donnell, the Medical School's Employee Relations Committee president, urges UT Medical School employees to join the ERC. "We would like to let everyone know the ERC's mission statement," Donnell said.

"The purpose of the ERC is to improve the working environment and morale of the employees of the Medical School through effective communication, recognition, education, and events."

For more information, contact Donnell at 713-500-5650.

BIOHOUSTON BREAKFAST FORUM BECKONS

BioHouston, a nonprofit organization that works with Life Science and Biotech institutions, is sponsoring a BioHouston Breakfast Forum 7 - 8:30 a.m., Thurs., **May 12**, 2415 Dunstan, in Rice Village. The health science center is a member of BioHouston and students, faculty, and staff are invited to participate.

World-renowned heart surgeon **Michael DeBakey, M.D.**, is the featured speaker for the forum. Advance registration is open until Tuesday, **May 10**.

To register online see: <<http://www.biohouston.org>>. Click on BioHouston Breakfast Forum. Student tickets are discounted to \$5.

Tickets are available at the door for an additional cost. Contact: Holly Myers, <holly.myers@biohouston.org>, 832-476-9307.

BRIDGING GRANT AND JUST MISSED GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

Applications are due **May 15** from Medical School faculty for the Just Missed Grant and Bridging Grant.

The Just Missed Grant provides support to Medical School faculty applicants of new National Institutes of Health grants who place in the top 25th percentile, but have not received funding.

The Bridging Grant provides support to Medical School faculty applicants seeking to renew grant applications that have not been funded within the past nine months by a federal agency and are within the top 35th percentile.

Send applications to **Dr. John Byrne**, MSB 7.046.

Proposals up to \$50,000 for one year can be submitted. Include a letter from the principal investigator's chairperson, the summary statement ("pink sheet") of the original proposal, and a letter containing the investigator's request, other support information from all funding sources, including the dates covered by such support.

Also, provide the previous summary budget (NIH form PHS 398, page 5 for nonmodular grants or NIH modular budget format page) describing the last year of the previous grant.

Contact: <Kimberly.J.Campbell@uth.tmc.edu>.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Winners of the April 19 Graduate Student Education Committee poster contest are: first-place winner, **Raegan Hunt**; second-place winners, **April Hebert** and **Auinish Kalsotra**; and third-place winners, **Tera Guidry**, **Fredy Reyes**, **Xuefeng Su**, and **Christopher Wilson**. Awards are: first-place, \$400; second-place, \$300; and third-place, \$200.



Second-place winner Auinish Kalsotra hears the good news.