



Scoop

Aug. 26, 2005

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

August

30 Clinical Research Billing Program Training. 11:30 a.m. MSB B.610. To sign up (and reserve lunch), call 713-500-3524.

September

5 Labor Day Holiday

8-9 Grants 101 New Investigator Development Program. 8 a.m. - noon, MSB B.100. Details: 713-500-4218

9 Blood Drive to Honor Victims of Sept. 11. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Medical School Leather Lounge.

13 Deadline to register for Baylor's Medical Terminology, Anatomy and Physiology Course. Course runs Sept. 20-Nov. 15. The cost on or before Sept. 13 is \$125. Details: <http://www.hcoa.org/medterm>

14 Deadline for hotel registration for Conference on Innovations in Medical Education: Physician Competencies and Professionalism. Conference to be held Oct. 6-7 in Austin. Details: www.utsystem.edu/hea/symposiumoct2005

21 Faculty Honors Convocation. 5 p.m. Hornberger Convention Center.

21 Conversation with James Madison. Noon, SPH auditorium and video streamed to MSB 1.006.

HERE COME THE HOLIDAYS: Get ready for the 19th Annual Holiday Arts and Craft Fair, which is hosted by the Medical School's Employee Relations Committee. This year the fair will be held 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17 in the Medical School's Leather Lounge and Grand Staircase Foyer.

To participate as a vendor, contact: **Dawn Alvarado** at 713-500-5103; dawn.alvarado@uth.tmc.edu or **Kathryn Merceri** at 713-500-6385; kathryn.w.merceri@uth.tmc.edu

BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY PENS A CASE FILES

Back-to-school time means textbook time, and this year there's a new book on the UT Bookstore shelves that was written by almost an entire Medical School department.

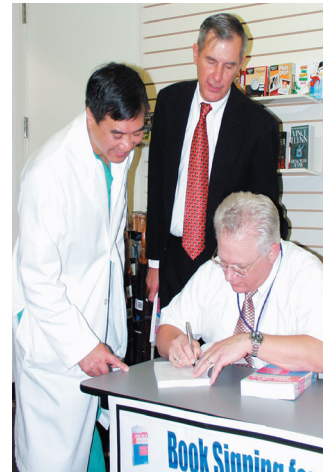
Case Files Biochemistry is the 10th book in the Case Files series, which is the brainchild of **Eugene Toy, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences.

"I started writing the series in 2001, when it became clear to me that we were not doing the best job teaching medical students how to think in a clinical manner – especially not teaching them how to incorporate basic science into clinical issues well," Toy explained.

Toy launched the series with obstetrics and gynecology and has since published five more clinical (general surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, internal medicine, and emergency medicine) and four basic science topics (biochemistry, pharmacology, gross anatomy, and microbiology).

"My goals were not just to get the books published but to incorporate UT faculty," he said. "By doing so, it establishes UT-Houston as a premier institution of medical learning."

The latest book, *Case Files Biochemistry*, includes as its authors **William Seifert, Ph.D.**, and **Henry Strobel, Ph.D.**, both of the Depart-



Drs. Eugene Toy, Henry Strobel and William Seifert (seated) autograph a *Case Files Biochemistry* book at a signing party at the UT Bookstore.

(Cont'd. on back)

TUG-OF-WAR, SKIT, WORKSHOPS SIGNAL STUDENT RETREAT

The Medical School's annual student retreat at Camp Allen near Hempstead Aug. 12-13 was a big success in welcoming the Class of 2009. Hosted by second-year students, the weekend retreat included a variety of welcoming remarks and useful workshops ranging from practical study tips to surviving the first week.

Recreation events included a lively tug-of-war, slip and slide team relays, and much more. The ever popular Saturday evening skit coordinated by MS IIs was once again a highlight of the weekend event. Over the years, the annual retreat has established itself as a centerpiece tradition of the Medical School that is remembered long after graduation. **Dr. Henry Strobel**, assistant dean for Student Affairs and associate dean for Faculty Affairs, is the retreat's founding faculty member who continues to guide the success of this highly popular annual event. Strobel notes that next year's retreat will mark a historical milestone – retreat's 30th anniversary.



Students enjoy the fun of retreat before the hard work of medical school begins.



THE UNIVERSITY
of TEXAS

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AT HOUSTON

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

Stanley Schultz, M.D., Dean
Darla Brown, Director
e-mail: scoop@uth.tmc.edu
Phone: 713-500-5112; FAX: 713-500-5533

E-Scoop online:

http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu/community_affairs/escoop.htm

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State accolade**San Jose Clinic Wins Volunteerism Award**

The San Jose Clinic, a low-cost clinic that receives a helping hand from numerous physicians, students, and staff at The University of Texas Health Science at Houston, has won one of **Gov. Rick Perry's** Champion of Volunteerism Awards for 2005.

The downtown clinic, a nonprofit United Way agency founded by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, serves as a training ground for UT medical residents and dental hygiene students.

UT employees who serve in a variety of capacities at the clinic include: **Francisco Fuentes, M.D.**, professor of medicine in the Division of Cardiology and the Theodore R. and Maureen O'Driscoll Levy Endowed Professor in Cardiology Research; **Philip Orlander, M.D.**, professor and director of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism; **Adelaide Hebert, M.D.**, professor and director of pediatric dermatology; **Guy Clifton, M.D.**, professor and holder of the Nancy, Clive and Pierce Runnells Distinguished Chair in Neurosurgery; **Jayne McWherter, RDH, M.Ed.**, an associate professor of dental hygiene who sends students to the San Jose Dental Clinic to treat patients; and **Mary Frances Fabrizio**, an administrative services officer at Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital.

The clinic, which won in the group category of the annual Governor's Volunteer Awards, was recognized for community service contributions to fellow Texans.

"We are thrilled to receive the award," said **Stacie J. Cokinos**, executive director of the San Jose Clinic. "It's a wonderful accolade to our 285 volunteers. Through their commitment to the San Jose Clinic, we are able to provide comprehensive health care to over 5,000 low-income, uninsured people every year."

-M. Raine

IF...

If you could see through my eyes, you would not see diabetic retinopathy, but a grandfather who cannot see a baseball game with his grandson.

If you could hear what I hear, you would not hear aortic stenosis, but a woman who cannot enjoy working in her garden.

If you could touch what I touch, you would not touch an infected wound, but a woman with an impending amputation without hopes of evening walks with her husband.

If you could smell what I smell, you would not smell the stench of chronic diarrhea, but sense of dignity lost and embarrassment felt for a grown man in a diaper.

You think you see, and yet you are blind.

You think you hear, but so does the patient your words so unkind.

Do you not see what you have become? A cynical, self-absorbent arrogant pawn.

Hippocrates cried a tear today. For you left another M & M Conference happy and gay.

Sit with your patient, ask him why.

And you might learn something from a sage reflecting on time gone by.

Give him a hug and make him smile,

And you will realize your day was worthwhile.

So rise to the challenge and from this moment your indifference must cease.

Before it's too late my young friend, and your tombstone also says rest in peace.

-Niraj Mehta, M.D., assistant professor, Internal Medicine

New fellowship

Dr. Richard Ruiz and Dr. Peter Hurlbut-Miller

Hurlbut-Miller Named Delta Gamma Fellow

Dr. Richard S. Ruiz, chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, has announced the appointment of Peter R. Hurlbut-Miller, M.D., as the first holder of the Houston Delta Gamma Foundation Fellowship in Ophthalmology.

The fellowship, established in perpetuity, provides research and travel funds to a young ophthalmologist during fellowship training. The Hermann Eye Fund provides matching funds on a one-for-three basis to establish this fellowship.

Miller is a native of Amherst, Mass., and graduated cum laude from the University of Massachusetts and attended the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester.

In July 2002, Miller began his residency training at the Hermann Eye Center where the faculty appointed him chief resident in July 2004. Having finished his residency training this month, Miller will begin his one-year fellowship in vitreo-retinal surgery.

Founded in 1972, Houston Delta Gamma Foundation is an all-volunteer organization supporting the blind and visually impaired community in the greater Houston area. The foundation supports research, education, and other programs that enhance the lives of the blind and visually impaired.

-D. Kearns

Case Files, cont'd.

ment of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Contributors include Medical School students, graduate students, and faculty, including **Drs. Michael Blackburn, Phillip Carpenter, Richard Kulmacz, Julia Lever, Alan Levine, John Putkey, and Ann-Bin Shyu**, all of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

"We really made an effort to involve the whole department, and this book was the perfect opportunity," Strobel said.

Even though these books are not required for Medical School courses, they are recommended and are selling quite well.

"The series is selling extremely well nationwide. The books take students from their first day of medical school all the way through to graduation," Toy said.

With a busy teaching schedule and clinical practice, Toy somehow has time to fit it all in – with two more books, neurology and family medicine, in the works and two more, pathology and physiology, due out in one month.

"This is my passion – teaching and helping medical students learn is the greatest joy I could have, so it is no problem," he said.