



# Scoop

March 31, 2006

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

## Events to Know

### April

**3 Dr. Jing-Fei Dong (Baylor College of Medicine)** to present "Balance Between Hemostasis and Thrombosis: A Role of von Willebrand Factor." Noon-1 p.m., MSB 2.135.

**3 Open enrollment for 18th Annual Summer Sports camp for children begins.** UTHSC-H Recreation Center. Visit <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/recreat/index.html> or contact Chucky Son at 713.500.8422.

**7 President's Update** for MS community. Dr. Willerson will brief faculty, staff, and students on legislative session, budget issues, and other university activities. Attend one of two sessions in MSB B.605: 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. or noon-1 p.m.

**12 Dr. Trevor Robbins (University of Cambridge)** to present Thirteenth Annual Harold Cooper Lectureship on "Impulsivity and Compulsivity: Neural and Neurochemical Substrates." 2 p.m.-3 p.m., MSB 3.001.

**13 Dr. Marschall Runge (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)** to present Special Dean's Lecture on "Change of Heart: Acute Coronary Syndromes, Generation Gaps, and the Physician-Scientist." 4 p.m., MSB 3.001.

**26 Spring HUB (Historically Underutilized Business) Vendor Show.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., MSB 5th Floor Gallery.

## UTMost Interest

**Elizabeth Noser, M.D.**, assistant professor of neurology, was quoted March 2 in *Forbes.com* about a constraint-induced movement therapy that offers hope in improving function for stroke patients.

**S. Ward Casscells, M.D.**, the Edward Tyson Distinguished Professor of Medicine, was quoted in the March 14 issue of the *Houston Chronicle* about a cholesterol-lowering drug that was shown to shrink blockages that cause most heart attacks.

## RUNGE TO DELIVER SPECIAL DEAN'S LECTURE, APRIL 13

**Marschall Runge, M.D., Ph.D.**, the Marion Covington Distinguished Professor of Medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, will deliver the Special Dean's Lecture at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 13 in lecture hall 3.001 of the Medical School. Runge, who is also president of the University of North Carolina Physicians, will present "Change of Heart: Acute Coronary Syndromes, Generation Gaps, and the Physician-Scientist." A reception will follow.

Runge is a practicing cardiologist and has been named on the list of "Best Doctors in America" seven of the last eight years. He has been funded by the National Institutes of Health since 1989 for his research on thrombosis and vascular biology and has published more than 170 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Science*, *Nature*, *Circulation*, and the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

Before coming to UNC in 2000, Runge was director of the Sealy Center for Molecular Cardiology and director of the Division of Cardiology at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

He earned a bachelor's degree in general biology from Vanderbilt University in 1976, a doctoral degree in molecular biology from Vanderbilt in 1979, and a medical degree from Johns Hopkins



Dr. Marschall Runge

(Cont'd. on back)

## STROBELS ARE MEDICAL SCHOOL'S FIRST FATHER-SON DUO

For the first time in The University of Texas Medical School at Houston's 35-year history, a parent-child duo is on the faculty together.

"We have something that no other school in the United States has – two Strobels on the faculty," said **Dr. Henry Strobel**, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology. Henry's son, **Nathaniel**, recently joined the Medical School's pediatrics department as an assistant professor in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, but the school is different from what he remembers as a child when he came to work with his dad.

"I used to have to jump to touch the emergency shower, and now, I have to duck," Nathaniel said.

The emergency showers aren't the only things that have changed in the halls of the Medical School. When Henry joined the faculty 33 years ago, facilities for the school were set up in borrowed or rented spaces. "I started August 11, 1972, at 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon – a Tuesday," he said. "Nothing of this building existed then. My office was in the Center Pavilion Hospital, and I was on the 13th floor."



Father and Son: Drs. Henry and Nathaniel Strobel

(Cont'd. on back)



THE UNIVERSITY  
of TEXAS

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
AT HOUSTON

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Produced weekly by the Office of Communications



## Concepts in Contemporary Cardiology, April 20-22

Designed to serve as a comprehensive update on the emerging and accepted techniques and methodologies for treating patients in all areas of cardiovascular disease, the "Concepts in Contemporary Cardiology Symposium" will take place April 20-22 at the Omni Houston Hotel.

The continuing medical education symposium will focus on coronary and peripheral interventions and adult congenital interventions and will include didactic lectures, workshops and discussions, and live case presentations from the Texas Medical Center. Program highlights include peripheral and neurovascular intervention, advanced endovascular therapeutics for valvular and adult congenital heart disease, medical and device management of congestive heart failure, endovascular and surgical coronary revascularization, and hot topic debates in cardiovascular medicine.

**Richard Smalling, M.D., Ph.D.**, the Jay Brent Sterling Professor in Cardiovascular Medicine, is a program director for the symposium, which is geared for cardiologists, cardiac and vascular surgeons, interventional radiologists, cardiovascular technologists, and cardiac critical care nurses.

Registration is available online at [www.cardioconcepts.org](http://www.cardioconcepts.org). For more information, send an e-mail to [cardioconcepts@meetingmanagers.com](mailto:cardioconcepts@meetingmanagers.com).

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## 40th Annual Family Medicine Review, April 6-8

The "40th Annual Family Medicine Review" will be April 6-8 at the Moody Gardens Conference Center in Galveston.

Presented by the Department of Family Medicine in collaboration with various departments at The University of Texas Medical Branch and other invited experts, the continuing medical education conference will feature updates on cardiology, women's health, urgent care, developmental delay, and many other topics. The conference will include didactic and case-based presentations, question and answer sessions, printed materials, and hands-on workshops.

For more information or to register, visit [www.UTCME.com](http://www.UTCME.com).

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## What's coming up?

Mark your calendars for two upcoming events.

- The 7th Annual Medical School Research Retreat will be Oct. 5-6 at the Faye S. Sarofim Research Building. Activities will include a data blitz session and four symposia sessions on signaling, technology transfer, mouse models of human disease, and neuroscience. **Jack Elias, M.D.**, Yale University School of Medicine, will be the keynote speaker. Registration information will be available in August.

- Nobel laureate **Stanley Prusiner, M.D.**, University of California, San Francisco, will present the Ernst Knobil Distinguished Lecture at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30 in lecture hall 3.001 of the Medical School.

For more information, contact **Kimberly Campbell Concha** at 713.500.5633.

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## Dean's Lecture, cont'd.

University School of Medicine in 1984. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and his fellowship in cardiovascular diseases at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

## Kids Summer Sports Camp Enrollment Starts April 3

Open enrollment for the UTHSC-H Recreation Center's 18th Annual Summer Sports Camp for children begins Monday, April 3 at the Recreation Center. The camp is open to boys and girls, ages 7 to 12, where they will learn a variety of sports, leisure, and educational activities. Four sessions are offered, including June 12-16, June 19-23, June 26-30, and July 10-14.

For more information about the camp, visit <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/recreat/index.html> or contact **Chucky Son** at 713.500.8422.

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## Strobels, cont'd.

Now, Henry's office is housed on the third floor of the Medical School Building, and the Center Pavilion Hospital no longer exists. He said that joining the school in its early days was an exciting time in his career.

"It was a great occasion and a wonderful opportunity to start a new academic life literally on the ground floor," he said. "The school then was very different from what it is now. So, Nathaniel starts his academic life in a much more developed, much more refined, part of the school's history than I was able to."

Reconstruction plans following Tropical Storm Allison caused the school to be restored from the ground up. Work on the earthen berm project completed in November 2005, and the new Replacement Research Facility replaces the John Freeman Building, with the last of its six concrete floors recently poured. And, the Surgical and Clinical Skills Center, set to open this year, promises to be an innovative learning resource for the school.

Nathaniel, too, comes on board at an exciting time in his career and at the school. Henry is thrilled to be part of the experience. "It's really a wonderful thing to be able to share that with him," he said.

However, both father and son wondered what it would be like to be at the school together, because even before Nathaniel became a faculty member, he was a student here.

"What's it going to be like for me to have a dad who teaches on the faculty?" Nathaniel said was a question that crossed his mind. "He obviously had a very big name here. He gave me enough space, so I could make my own name and have my own identity."

Henry, who is also associate dean for Faculty Affairs and assistant dean for Student Affairs, said he questioned what it might be like for him to have a son who was also one of his students. "I probably paid more attention to his grades and how he was doing than otherwise I would," he said.

The Strobels make time for each other during the day, as father and son and as colleagues.

"We actually do research together," Nathaniel said.

"We have a project under way," Henry added. "We have lunch together frequently. It's really kind of lucky to be able to share at this level – as faculty and colleagues."

They also don't separate their work life from their home life. "My philosophy is that there's just one life, and that life has lots of different facets, and work is one of them," Henry said. "We never lose the fact that we have a father-son relationship. We also have a relationship as friends."