

Events to Know

December

- 11 Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar: Dr. Sean P. Colgan** (University of Colorado Health Science Center) to present **"Anti-Inflammatory Actions of Endogenous Adenosine."** Noon – 1 p.m., MSB. 2.135.
- 11 Integrative Biology & Pharmacology Seminar: "In vivo Imaging of Exogenous Gene Expression Using A Somatostatin Receptor-Based Reporter" Dr. Vikas Kundra, M.D., Ph.D.** (M. D. Anderson) 4 p.m. MSB 2.135. Reception to follow in MSB 5.036
- 13 Grants.gov User's Group meeting.** 9 – 10:30 a.m., MSB 2.135.
- 14 Dean's Holiday Cookie Reception in the Leather Lounge.** Raider Chorus performs at noon.

UTMost Interest

Dr. Evelyn Chan, associate professor of general internal medicine, has been selected to serve as a standing member of the Behavioral Medicine, Interventions and Outcomes Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, at the National Institutes of Health for Sept. 1, 2006 to June 30, 2010.

Dr. Jose Carranza, professor of psychiatry, was invited by the Drug Free America Foundation to attend the International Task Force on Strategic Drug Policy in London.

Dr. Ferid Murad, John S. Dunn Distinguished Chair in Medicine and Physiology, recently returned from China and South Korea where he gave a number of lectures, press conferences, and a live television show at Qingdao University, Peking Union Medical College, and Yonsei University. He was made an honorary professor at Qingdao University and Peking Union Medical College and participated in the Nobel Forum with six other Nobel Laureates in the Great Hall in Beijing and in Seoul.

Medical School reaches SECC goal

Through the generosity of its employees, the Medical School met its financial goal set for the fall 2006 State Employee Charitable Campaign.

The goal was set at \$82,109 and the Medical School's faculty and staff gave \$84,888.89. The number of contributors jumped from 442 to 533 over last year's campaign.

"The health science center increased the goal 5 percent, and our campaign lasted only two and a half weeks," explained **Linda Lindloff**, one of four members of the Medical School's SECC steering committee. "I'm excited that with the campaign just half as long that we were able to exceed our goal."

With a shorter campaign period, departmental campaign leaders were faced with new challenges.

"The challenges are more difficult for those departments with faculty off site, but half of our campaign leaders had done it before. It's good to have that continuity year to year, and it's also nice to see how creative some departments can be when it comes to raising money for SECC," Lindloff added.

The Medical School's SECC Steering Team was composed of **Lisa Byrd**, **Kevin Mersmann**, **Suzanne Paramore**, and Lindloff.

"I am gratified by the hard work of our volunteer campaigners and pleased that the Medical School met its goal. The State Employee Charitable Campaign supports many worthy causes and is a great way for us to give back to the community," said **interim Dean Jerry Wolinsky**.

-D. Brown

Interim chairs named for Orthopaedics, Emergency Medicine

Interim Dean Jerry Wolinsky has announced the appointment of two interim chairs: **Dr. Arthur Jansa** in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and **Dr. David Robinson** in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Jansa, clinical assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery, takes the reins for **Dr. Thomas Clanton**, who resigned effective Sept. 1, but remains on the faculty with research, teaching, and clinical duties in the department.



Dr. David Robinson

"Dr. Clanton has been an integral part of the Medical School community over these last nine years, and we appreciate his efforts in building the department," Wolinsky said. "We are fortunate his work as a mentor and role model to his faculty, fellows, and residents will continue."

Robinson, associate professor of emergency medicine, will lead the Department of Emergency Medicine, as **Dr. Brent King** fills the role of interim executive vice president and chief operating officer of the UT Health Science Center.

A search committee led by **Dr. Dennis Vollmer**, professor and chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, will begin the process for a permanent department chair in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.



Dr. Arthur Jansa

To send a news tip or event for *Scoop*,
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MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

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

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Walking for heart



Medical students **Sean Meiner** and **Dave Stewart** join **GSBS Dean George Stancel** at the American Heart Association Heart Walk last month. More than 275 walkers from the health science center participated and raised more than \$18,000.

Let the shopping begin

The UT Bookstore will hold its holiday sale Dec. 1-22, featuring 20 percent off T-shirts, sweatshirts, gift books, gift items, including plush, frames, toys, holiday items, logo items, and much more.

Those spending more than \$100 on sale items may register to win a Microsoft Zune valued at over \$200. The drawing will be held Dec. 22. Info: 713-500-5860.

Auction for Art's Sake

Art lovers came out in force during the Medical School's Art Wall Silent Auction reception Dec. 1. Nearly \$4,000 was raised through art purchases to support the Art Wall.



Adrian Melissinos makes sure she receives her favorite work of art by making her final bid as bidding closed.



Wells Rader holds the bidding board as **Regina Verani** bids on a work of art. Verani was honored during the reception for being the first major supporter for the wall.

Howard Hughes Institute seeks investigators

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute is accepting applicants for 15 new investigators who lead patient-oriented research programs and whose scientific work is influenced by their interaction with patients.

The applicant must:

- have an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree,
- have between four and 16 years of experience as an independent investigator,
- be a PI on an active NIH ROI grant or a project leader on an active NIH PO1 grant, and
- be licensed to practice in the U.S.

For more info: http://www.hhmi.org/research/competitions/investigator_por/

Applications will be accepted Jan. 2-18, 2007.

Students honor their favorites

The results are in: the Class of 2009 has chosen the best course, the best teacher of each course, and the best course director. The president of the MS II class, **Chad Whited**, announced the results of the class selections during the last day of the summer retreat and only recently personally presented a framed certificate to each winning faculty member.

The following are the class' selections:

FALL SEMESTER

Best Teacher in the Biochemistry course – **Dr. Phillip Carpenter**

Best Teacher in the Developmental Anatomy course – **Dr. Carla Rogers & Dr. Lawrence Ross** (tie)

Best Teacher in the Gross Anatomy course – **Dr. Han Zhang & Dr. Lawrence Ross** (tie)

Best Teacher in the Histology course – **Dr. Elizabeth Hartwell**

The Best Course – **Gross Anatomy**

The Best Course Director – **Dr. Len Cleary**

SPRING SEMESTER

Best Teacher in the ICM course – **Dr. Edie Shulman**

Best Teacher in the Immunology course – **Dr. Jeffrey Actor**

Best Teacher in the Microbiology course – **Dr. Lisa Armitige**

Best Teacher in the Medical Neuroscience course – **Dr. Pedro Mancias**

Best Teacher in the Physiology course – **Dr. Stanley Schultz**

The Best Course – **Physiology**

The Best Course Director – **Dr. Nachum Dafny**

Student group sponsors toy drive

The Student Surgical Association Philanthropy Committee is sponsoring a holiday hope toy and clothing drive to benefit the Northwest Assistance Ministries Clinic (NAM) that runs through Dec. 15.

Toys, children's clothing, and baby blankets will be collected in boxes in the LRC, student mailroom, Leather Lounge, and outside rooms 1.006 and 2.006.

Monetary donations for basic medical supplies and baby formula may be made by contacting **Jennie Lin**, Jennie.J.Lin@uth.tmc.edu.

The NAM clinic is one of the teaching facilities for UT medical students and serves children from infancy up to 18 years old. These are children of families on Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or families that are uninsured.