

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

2005-2007 CATALOG

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Message from the President

Congratulations and welcome to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston! Your decision to pursue a career in the health science arena is a noble one. As our world population continues to grow and age, your contributions to eliminating disease and suffering will be increasingly valued.

Inspired by my own parents who were both physicians, I have pursued a career in the field of cardiology -- caring for patients, teaching students, and conducting research that has led to new discoveries. In recent years there has been an explosion of new knowledge that is contributing to a better understanding of the role that genes and proteins play in the development of disease. There is no more exciting or challenging time for health professions students than the present.



You are now a part of our health science center family. This is the most comprehensive academic medical center in the Southwestern United States, with six distinct schools devoted to medicine, dentistry, nursing, public health, biomedical science and health informatics. Additional units are focused on molecular medicine and psychiatric care. Nowhere in the world can a student find the breadth of programs and opportunities available here on our campus with schools located throughout the world-famous Texas Medical Center.

I encourage you to get to know your fellow students and our esteemed faculty – many of whom are internationally known in their fields of endeavor. Become familiar with all components of this diverse health science center and foster opportunities to collaborate.

Each member of our faculty and administration is committed to creating and maintaining the most stimulating and nurturing learning environment possible. We wish you the best in your academic pursuits and in the health sciences career that lies ahead.

James T. Willerson, M.D.

Welcome !

UTHSC-H offers students a stimulating environment. This is important because we believe that learning and personal and professional growth and development occur best in an environment of excitement, creativity, and discovery. People, scholarship, and service are highly valued at UTHSC-H. The people are the students, faculty, staff, patients and others who comprise our university community and give it uniqueness, diversity and excitement. Scholarship is the foundation of all our activities. Scholarship is about learning or discovering new knowledge and teaching, integrating and applying that knowledge. Service occurs as members of the university community apply their knowledge and skills to provide advice and insight to care for patients, to prevent disease, and to analyze and set or change public policies related to education and health care. Our services are provided at the local, state, national, and international levels.



We are committed to leadership and quality in all that we do to further education, research, patient care and community service. That is our mission. As a result of our commitment, we are rigorous in the recruitment of faculty and students, knowing that we will count on their leadership and support now and in the future. Simply put, leadership is reflected in our appreciation for the contributions of others, making decisions based on first-hand information, and setting examples worth following.

Our location and research activities benefit our education programs. Being in the Texas Medical Center and in community hospitals, clinics and schools provide learning opportunities not available in many academic health centers. Our physical plant includes facilities for education, basic science and clinical research, inpatient and ambulatory health care, student accommodations, and recreation.

The quality of our faculty and the variety of our educational, research and patient care programs provide unique opportunities for learning. Our university is nationally recognized for its basic science, population, and clinical research programs. UTHSC-H is in the top tier of research institutions in Texas, as measured by funds expended for research, the number of quality publications authored by faculty, students and staff, and the receipt of the Nobel Prize in Medicine by one of our colleagues.

We believe in teamwork but value the uniqueness of individuals. Students learn to work together, and with faculty, drawing strength from the knowledge, skills and contributions of others. At the same time, we value one another, recognizing and celebrating the talents, creativity and character of each member of the team. We believe that every individual should be treated fairly and with respect and dignity. Furthermore, we believe that individuals are most productive and are more responsible and accountable when engaged in meaningful work or learning and when they know what is expected of them. In this regard, our faculty and others who are in leadership positions strive to provide direction and support for their constituents at all times.

Our goal is to make UTHSC-H an outstanding place for those who join us to share many positive experiences that will enrich their lives, build on the reputation of our university, and benefit our community.

L. Maximilian Buja, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

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Dean
School of Nursing

Mission and Vision Statements

Teaching, Searching, Serving

Mission Statement

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is a comprehensive health science university composed of six schools, an institute of molecular medicine and a psychiatric center. UTHSC-H's mission is to treat, cure, and prevent disease now and in the future by educating health science professionals; discovering and translating advances in social and biomedical sciences; and modeling the best practices in clinical care.

To fulfill our mission, UTHSC-H:

1. Educates health professionals and scientists in a diverse interdisciplinary academic community.
2. Creates and evaluates new knowledge – through basic science and applied research – as it relates to disease prevention, treatment and cure.
3. Provides leadership and advances scholarship in biomedical sciences, health professions, health promotion, public health policy and health care delivery.
4. Models appropriate and compassionate clinical care.
5. Addresses the health needs of the community at large through public health expertise, information, outreach and service.
6. Develops the expanding field of health information science.

Vision Statement

“Excellence above all” in the quest to be an acknowledged leader in the collaboration to trust, cure and prevent the most common diseases of our time through education, research and clinical practice.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston aspires to be a leader in the collaboration to treat, prevent, and cure the most common diseases of our time by:

1. Utilizing the distinctive capabilities of its schools, clinics, institutes and centers;
2. Collaborating with colleagues in The University of Texas System, the Texas Medical Center and throughout the world;
3. Being an academic health science center that is nationally and internationally recognized in teaching, research and service;
4. Serving as a home for the visionaries and scholars who will lead the way in defining and creating the future of the health sciences; and
5. Providing a diverse work environment that is ethically-based, service-oriented and community-sensitive.

General Information

History of The University of Texas System

The idea of a university of Texas is as old as the State. The Texas Declaration of Independence lists as one of its main indictments against the government of Mexico the fact that “it has failed to establish any public system of education...” Several early attempts were made to establish a state university, but they were not successful because of the Civil War and subsequent Era of Reconstruction. Establishment of a state university for Texas was provided first by act of the State Legislature in 1881. It provided for the location of the institution by popular vote and for appointment of a Board of Regents to be entrusted with its organization and governance. By results of an election in September 1881, the site of the main university was designated as Austin and Galveston was chosen as the location for the Medical Branch. An undergraduate college and law school were established and The University of Texas formally opened on September 15, 1883.

Since then numerous campuses, schools, colleges, divisions and branches have been added to The University of Texas System at several locations throughout the state. The System now includes academic campuses in Arlington, Austin, Brownsville, Dallas, El Paso, Midland/Odessa (UT Permian Basin), San Antonio, Tyler and Edinburg. The health science centers are located at Dallas, Galveston, Houston, and San Antonio. A health center (hospital) is located in Tyler. The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is located in Houston.

Other components of the System include the Institute of Texas Cultures (at San Antonio), the Institute of Humanities in Medicine (UT Medical Branch, Galveston), the Environmental Science Park near Smithville (UT Cancer Center), the Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas (UT Austin), the McDonald Observatory at Fort Davis (UT Austin), and the Shriners Burn Institute (in conjunction with UT Medical Branch, Galveston).

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) was established in late 1972 to administer and provide for the operation of the several biomedical and health-related units located in the city through the integration and coordination of functions and activities. UT- Houston presently includes, in order of establishment:

| | |
|------|---|
| 1905 | Dental Branch (originally as the Texas Dental College – joined UTHSC-H in 1943) |
| 1963 | Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences |
| 1967 | School of Public Health |
| 1970 | Medical School |
| 1972 | School of Nursing |
| 1973 | School of Health Information Sciences |
| 1990 | Harris County Psychiatric Center |

As a component of The University of Texas System, UTHSC-H is subject to the *Rules and Regulations* of The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System for the Governance of The University of Texas System.

The official name of the institution is The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. It is informally termed UTHSC-H.

Today, UTHSC-H employs more than 4,900 faculty and staff and has over 3,200 students enrolled in various health and biomedical disciplines at its component schools.

UTHSC-H Addresses*

Dental Branch

6516 M.D. Anderson Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030-3402

Medical School

(John Freeman Building, Medical School Building
and Jesse Jones Library Building)
6431 Fannin
Houston, TX 77030-1503

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

6767 Bertner Ave., Rm 3.8344 Houston, TX 77030

School of Health Information Sciences

(University Center Tower)
7000 Fannin, Suite 600
Houston, TX 77030

School of Nursing

6901 Bertner
Houston, TX 77030

School of Public Health

(Reuel A. Stallones Building)
1200 Herman Pressler
Houston, TX 77030-3900

Child Development Center

7900 Cambridge
Houston, TX 77054-5500

Jesse Jones HAM-TMC Library

1133 John Freeman Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

Harris County Psychiatric Center

2800 S. MacGregor Way
Houston, TX 77021

Houston Recovery Campus

4514 Lyons
Houston, TX 77020

Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine

1825 Hermann Pressler St.
Houston, TX 77030

Mental Sciences Institute

1300 Moursund
Houston, TX 77030

Recreation Center

7779 Knight Road
Houston, TX 77054

Speech and Hearing Building

1343 Moursund
Houston, TX 77030-3496

UTHSC-H Administrative Offices

(University Center Tower)
7000 Fannin
Houston, TX 77030

UT Police Department

7777 Knight Road
Houston, TX 77054

UTHSC-H Professional Building

6410 Fannin
Houston, TX 77030

*Unless otherwise clearly posted or expressed by an authorized official of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H), the various UTHSC-H facilities and locations are open only to persons with legitimate business purposes requiring presence at such facilities and locations (HOOP Policy [2.09 Use of University Facilities](#), updated 10/96). UTHSC-H allows only agents of UTHSC-H, employees acting within the scope of their employment with UTHSC-H, the Student InterCouncil, and other registered student, faculty, and staff organizations to solicit on the grounds, sidewalks, or streets on the UTHSC-H campus or in any building, structure, or facility owned, controlled, or operated by UTHSC-H (HOOP Policy [2.05 Solicitation on Campus](#), updated 04/01).

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Institutional Governance

Institutional governance at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is supported by a system of councils and standing committees. As a whole, these councils enhance communication both vertically and horizontally within the university; enable leaders and constituent representatives from each of the major mission areas to participate in exchange of information and decision making; and incorporate ideas and points of view from a variety of students, faculty and staff in the decision-making process. Deliberations and recommendations from councils provide assistance to executive leadership of the university as they make decisions about the university's future and well-being. The Executive Council is responsible for advising the President in matters of policy development and administration of UTHSC-H. Additional councils are the Academic Council, Diversity Council, Research Council, Clinical Council, Institutional Relations Council, Administrative Council, and Safety Council.

A complete guide to UTHSC-H councils can be found at <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/council/index.html>.

Standing Committees

Animal Welfare Committee
Audit Committee
Awards Committee
Chemical Safety Committee
Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects
Committee on the Status of Women
Conflict Resolution Board
Continuing Education Advisory Committee
Employee Relations General Administration Committee
Executive Council
Faculty Development Leave Committee
Institutional Biosafety Committee
Intellectual Property Committee
Interfaculty Council
Health Informatics Advisory Committee
Learning and Technology Advisory Team
Multicultural Affairs Committee
Nominating Committee
Physical Safety Committee
Radiation Safety Committee
Sexual Harassment Board
Student InterCouncil
Student Services Council
University Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee
University Classified Staff Council
Work/Life Council

Development Board

The Development Board of UTHSC-H is composed of a group of dedicated men and women who believe in the vision of the university and who give their time, influence and resources to actively promote the teaching and research programs of the university. Each Development Board member is a principal force in supporting the mission of UTHSC-H, its values and accomplishments.

Development Board members generally serve three-year terms and may be reappointed by the President of UTHSC-H. Selection of new Board members is made by the Nominating Committee and

approved by the President and the Board. Board meetings are held three times each year with additional meetings called as needed.

There are three categories of membership: regular, emeritus and life. Currently there are 139 regular members of the Development Board. Emeritus membership is reserved for those Development Board members who have served as Chair of the Development Board. Life members are those distinguished Board members who have been recognized for their many years of outstanding service to UTHSC-H. All members serve as ambassadors for UTHSC-H to the greater Houston community.

Centers, Programs and Institutes

A variety of interdisciplinary centers, institutes and programs have been created to enrich the primary programs of the schools of UTHSC-H. In general, the centers focus on specific service and research efforts while the institutes provide opportunities for special multidisciplinary educational projects. These efforts reinforce UTHSC-H's commitment to providing a means through which the health professions may join with each other and with society to consider health-related issues.

The centers, programs and institutes are listed below along with their primary school affiliates and Web URL addresses when available. Inquiries for more detailed information should be directed to the appropriate school.

The Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases

Advances in molecular and cell biology have enormous potential for innovative medical research and the future practice of medicine with more novel therapies. These approaches have been most successfully used to determine the causes of infectious disorders and genetic diseases. However, it is clear that molecular and cell biology will play a major role in clarifying the causes of many unsolved problems of modern medicine: heart disease, hypertension, vascular disorders, major mental illnesses, and inflammatory and immunologic diseases. The IMM houses six research centers and several support laboratories, each exploring the genetic and molecular aspects of biological processes significant to explain the basis of human diseases.

In addition to the present IMM at the Institute of Biosciences and Technology, a satellite IMM facility exists at the Texas Heart Institute on the 9th floor of the Denton Cooley Building. This facility strengthens our basic science programs, and builds upon the excellence in research already in place. The additional research space allows the IMM to expand its present research capabilities and recruit the caliber of scientists capable of conducting research at the leading edge. The physical location also supports the institution's goal of continual partnership (or collaboration) with other institutions in the Medical Center by sharing space and support services.

The long-term goals of the IMM are to set the example for research excellence and collaborations locally, nationally, and internationally. Scientifically, the IMM is on the verge of a new frontier of expansion and collaborations.

The Research Center for Cell Signaling has been examining the role of nitric oxide and cyclic GMP in cellular signaling in vascular biology, inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract and other tissues. The laboratory has obtained the genomic structure of the gene for mouse and human soluble guanylyl cyclase, and has identified the promoters for these genes. In addition, the enzyme has been expressed in large quantities to perform various biochemical studies. It was found that estrogen has an effect on the regulation of the gene. The isoforms of nitric oxide synthase have been characterized and many nitrotyrosine containing proteins that play a role in inflammation and diabetes, as well as a "denitrase"

enzyme that modifies nitrotyrosine. The laboratory has also developed a soluble guanylyl cyclase mutant that is constitutively active in the absence of nitric oxide. This work has numerous implications and applications in many clinical disorders.

The Research Center for Human Genetics is using modern genomic technologies to unravel the genetic predisposition to the most common chronic diseases, such as heart disease and stroke. Cardiovascular diseases are the number one cause of sickness and death in the United States. Identifying and characterizing the genes underlying cardiovascular disease susceptibility promises to offer new treatment strategies (e.g. drugs) and even prevent their occurrence altogether. The Center uses the latest tools for large scale genomic and proteomic analyses. In addition, a major activity of the Center is the statistical and bioinformatics analysis of large-scale DNA sequence, gene expression and proteomic data.

The Research Center for Protein Chemistry serves as a core facility for the structural analysis of proteins; the research activities of this center focus on three major topics. All these activities relate to the significance of the manipulation of conformational change of proteins. (1) Development of technology for the production of diverse and stable conformational isomers of proteins; (2) Elucidation of the mechanisms and pathway(s) of protein folding and unfolding; (3) Preparation and isolation of isomers and derivatives of mouse prion protein that display structural properties of scrapie prion protein.

The Research Center for Immunology & Autoimmune Diseases is examining the molecular and genetic bases of several different allergic, autoimmune, and infectious diseases involving distinct organs. These studies explore the nature, structure, and function of specific cell membrane receptors and their ligands in modulating the immune and inflammatory responses. In concert with the molecular studies, the Center's scientists have engineered mice with specific targeted gene mutations or deletions that are being used in models of human disease. These animal studies have facilitated the identification of key gene products that play significant roles in modulating the immune system as well as contributing to the pathogenesis of human disease. Presently, the Center's research efforts are focused on diseases that affect the lung, skin, and kidney.

The Research Center for Vascular Biology is providing new insights into the molecular targets of cell protection and the results should be valuable for further development of cytoprotection therapies. The group is also involved in clinical investigations including the therapeutic use of nitric oxide gas in order to decrease circuit-induced cell and tissue injury in patients subjected to cardiopulmonary bypass and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. Other clinical efforts have led to studies on the role of NO synthases in liver cirrhosis.

Core Facilities

The Laboratory for Developmental Biology was established to help scientists at the Institute of Molecular Medicine and The University of Texas Health Science Center conduct research that requires the production of transgenic and knock-out animal models of human diseases. Genetically-altered animals, called transgenic and "knock-out" animals, represent invaluable models of human genetic diseases. In these animals, candidate genes are inserted or deleted in order to study the role that specific gene products play in the pathogenesis of different diseases.

The Laboratory for Developmental Biology has produced over five hundred new, transgenic and knock-out mouse lines for scientists from the IMM, UTHSC-H, Baylor College of Medicine and UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Some of the animal models generated were instrumental in the discovery of new genes that have important roles in the development of heart disease, asthma and cancer, just to

name a few. By working together with and helping scientists to advance their research, the Core Facility has become an integral and valued component of the University.

Recently, the services of the Laboratory for Developmental Biology have expanded to include a Stem Cell Research Core Facility. This is the only facility in the Texas Medical Center that offers scientists intellectual and technical assistance in stem cell research. Mouse stem lines newly derived in the laboratory are available to investigators to use in their experiments in order to integrate this revolutionary new technology into their own research.

In addition to providing intellectual and technical assistance to other scientists, the Laboratory for Developmental Biology also conducts original research in stem cell therapy. The laboratory's recent accomplishments include the derivation of new, highly effective mouse stem cells and the genetic modification of these cells to emit a green light. The modified, glowing stem cells may be visually followed when re-implanted into the body and thus they represent an invaluable tool for studying the process by which stem cells regenerate tissues and organs that have been damaged by disease. The Laboratory's future research plans include the genetic engineering of the stem cells to prevent immune rejection following transplantation into a different organism and the application of the knowledge and experience that was gained by working with the mouse stem cells to research with human stem cells.

The Laboratory for Molecular Imaging, using modern information processing techniques in concert with physics-based simulation methods, is combining structural data of biological machines from a variety of biophysical sources. In particular, the team investigates the architecture, dynamics, and function of large-scale macromolecular assemblies with low-resolution density data from electron microscopy. The experimental work at the Institute is complemented by theoretical research in image processing and bio-computing at the School of Health Information Sciences.

Other core facilities available at the IMM include a flow cytometry and cell sorter facility, an automated DNA sequencing facility, and a BL-3 laboratory for work with highly infectious agents. A core facility for microarray analysis and proteomics is in the planning phase. These techniques are currently being used in some of the Centers.

A new home for the IMM is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2005. The 223,000-square-foot building will consist of two wings, one for technology and administrative offices and one for research labs, with at least 65% of the usable space devoted to actual research. The facility will include a 200-seat auditorium, a large atrium for events, and conference rooms for collaborative scientific discussion.

Website: http://www.uth.tmc.edu/uth_orgs/imm/

The Center for Academic & Reading Skills

The Center for Academic & Reading Skills (CARS) is a research facility that studies the ways in which reading skills and other academic skills develop in young children, including those who are academically disabled or underachieving. The Center examines the effects of concentrated early reading intervention for the prevention of reading difficulties, including an examination of the effects of different types of reading intervention on reading development. One research study looks at changes in brain activation as a function of reading intervention, using a Magnetic Source Imaging technique. CARS transfers research results into classrooms by disseminating information to school personnel, training teachers and educators, providing and implementing prototypes of new approaches to teacher training, monitoring programs, developing better ways to evaluate student performance and designing prevention programs. CARS' research is supported mainly by grants from the National Institutes of Child Health and Development, the Inter-agency Educational Research Initiative, the Office of Educational

Research Improvement and the Texas Education Agency. Additional funding sources include the AT&T Foundation, Meadows Foundation and Houston Endowment.

Source: Barbara Foorman, Medical School

Website: <http://cars.uth.tmc.edu/>

Center on Aging

This center, established in 1987, advocates interdisciplinary activities, recognizing that the care of older persons requires the collaborative effort of physicians, nurses, social workers, nutritionists, physical and occupational therapists and other health professionals. The Center on Aging has taken the lead in responding to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's goals of articulating programs, coordinating services and sharing resources among the publicly funded educational institutions that offer gerontology or geriatric programs throughout the state. The primary mission of the Center is to initiate, coordinate and facilitate disciplinary and interdisciplinary aging research, education, community service and institutional development within UTHSC-H.

Specific interdisciplinary aging-related activities initiated by the Center include: (1) research projects that aim at improving the well-being of older adults and their caregivers; (2) educational programs in collaboration with other academic institutions, and community agencies that provide professional development and continuing education; (3) community service programs that seek to improve access to accurate age-related information; (4) a consultation center that provides Aging Resources, Information, Support and Education (ARISE) services to individuals and families who are coping with aging changes and care giving challenges; and (5) the Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Program, an advocacy service for residents of LTC facilities in Harris County and their relatives.

Source: Sharon K. Ostwald, School of Nursing

Website: <http://sonser4.nur.uth.tmc.edu/coa/>

The Center for Biosecurity Informatics

The Center for Biosecurity Informatics Research is established by the School of Health Information Sciences, the Center for Biosecurity and Public Health Preparedness and Institute for Biotechnology within the UTHSC-Houston to coordinate research and development of IT infrastructures and technological platforms relevant to bioterrorism preparedness, emergency response and situation awareness (Homeland Security).

The Center will promote collaborative research and technology development activities in the context of:

- Bioterrorism Preparedness (Situation Awareness), Emergency Response and Command, Control and Communication, in City, County, State and National levels.
- Education, Training and Drill for emergency response and mass casualty event preparedness, using state of the art information technologies
- Community Awareness and Public Preparedness Services
- Biomedical, Clinical and Public Health Informatics

Primary mission and Objectives of the center are: "To be the pioneering research entity nationwide, designing and developing the next generation of public health situation awareness systems and emergency response management infrastructure for public health preparedness against bioterrorism. The center will promote a multidisciplinary collaboration environment between university researchers, private enterprises and government agencies from public health, nursing, informatics, and medical domain, to provide the America with state of the art technologies, research and development

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infrastructures and training, education and drill tools for scientists and for community about bioterrorism and mass casualty events."

This overall mission is supported by three other goals that differentiate this effort from other local initiatives:

1. To establish a "Center of Excellence" from a cluster of scientists, faculties, researchers and students of different domains to:
 - Identify needs and develop the rationale to deploy new technologies.
 - Provide a continuous source of grant support.
 - Collaborate within an inter-disciplinary program to translate or transfer technologies from different domains.
2. Establish an advanced and state-of-the-art training and learning laboratory to simulate, experiment and study public health and environmental incidents in a multi-disciplinary environment.
3. Develop technologies relevant to community services to enhance vigilance, awareness and public preparedness.

Sources: Parsa Mirhaji, Director, and Jiajie Zhang, Director of Research

Website: <http://www.phinformatics.org>

Center for Biosecurity & Public Health Preparedness

The Center for Biosecurity and Public Health Preparedness is a new collaborative endeavor, based in the School of Public Health, that will bring together the expertise of faculty throughout UTHSC-H as well as individuals and organizations statewide to focus on research, education and training, communication and public information, emergency resources and policy development in this critically important area for protection of the public's health.

Source: Scott R. Lillibridge, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.texasbiosecurity.org/>

Center for Cardiovascular Biology and Atherosclerosis Research

Cardiology Clinical research interests include coronary thrombolysis in acute ischemia, the development of left ventricular assist pumps, and new PTCA and atherectomy devices. Quantitative arteriography to evaluate coronary restenosis and the progression of atherosclerosis is under investigation. Additionally, clinical research in cardiac imaging is being pursued with positron emission tomography and SPECT gamma imaging. Electrophysiology studies are evaluating new antiarrhythmic drugs, intelligent pacemaker cardioverters, implantable defibrillators and the effect of ablation procedures. Basic science research is underway in molecular and cell biology, particularly with regard to endothelial aspects of atherosclerosis and ischemic myocardial damage and repair.

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/cbar/>

Center for Clinical Research & Evidence Based Medicine

The goal of this center is to augment population health – as measured by life expectancy without illness or disability – by promoting clinical research of the highest quality and by advancing the way that this research is applied by physicians in caring for their patients. Faculty of the Center includes 19 colleagues in an array of disciplines – epidemiology, economics, ethics, statistics and behavioral and

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social sciences – as well as physicians highly experienced in clinical research. The Center has developed a master's degree program in clinical research and an NIH-supported clinical research curriculum and mentorship program. These programs provide in-depth training in clinical research to fellows and faculty within any department. Mentorship is provided jointly by departmental faculty and center faculty to assist mentees in preparing major grant proposals and in obtaining career development awards. The Center also provides a Design and Analysis Support Service to assist clinical investigators. The research of the Center faculty has focused on problems in newborns, children or adults that cause a major loss of healthy life years. Last year, center faculty were authors on 105 published manuscripts, principal investigators for 17 funded grants and investigators for 48 funded grants.

Source: Jon Tyson, Medical School

Website: <http://ped1.med.uth.tmc.edu/neo/center-home.htm>

Center for Computational Biomedicine

Over the past several years, computational issues for technology-driven biomedical research have proliferated. The Center for Computational Biomedicine (CBM) at UTHSC-H's School of Health Information Sciences pursues collaborative, interdisciplinary research and education within the broadly defined scientific area of computational biomedicine. This new discipline is defined by and indeed resides upon the interface between the computational sciences (i.e., signal analysis, data mining and computer science in general) and a wide variety of biomedical disciplines including neuroscience, genomics, cardiology and structural biology to name a few. Fundamentally, CBM addresses the modeling, acquisition, processing and long-term storage of the ever-increasing volume of biomedical information.

The Center for CBM encourages the development of collaborative relationships among faculty and others around research and education in CBM related to the mission of the university. The Center for CBM emphasizes the highly interdisciplinary nature of this emerging scientific discipline in health care and biomedical research. The Executive Committee of the Center is composed of representatives from each of the other five UTHSC-H schools.

Source: Michael Brandt, School of Health Information Sciences

Website: <http://www.sahs.uth.tmc.edu/Centerforcomputationalbiomedicine/>

Center for Education and Information Resources

The Center for Education and Information Resources (CEIR) plans, develops, and implements numerous educational and information technological projects and offers related resources in support of the students, faculty, and staff of the SON that encourages the attainment of the University of Texas Houston Health Science Center at Houston's mission and the goals of the SON. The purpose of the CEIR is to "*implement technology that enhances teaching excellence and quality learning.*"

Specifically, the CEIR provides support for educational programs, including distance education; develops software/hardware standards; maintains the SON networks; supports and schedules classrooms, supports and maintains the computer labs; and provides training and multimedia development.

Website: <http://sonser4.nur.uth.tmc.edu/ceir/>

Center of Excellence for Patient Safety Research and Practice

The Center of Excellence for Patient Safety Research and Practice is a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary project dedicated to improving healthcare for providers and patients.

Medical errors are a common and expensive problem in the U.S. healthcare system. To address this public health problem, the Institute of Medicine, the general public, and numerous researchers cite the aviation industry as an example for the healthcare industry to follow. We have assembled a multidisciplinary research team that has a track record of developing, translating, and utilizing aviation safety practices in healthcare. The individual projects of the Center are unified by the theme of translating safety practices from aviation to healthcare.

Source: Eric Thomas, Medical School

Website: http://www.uth.tmc.edu/schools/med/imed/patient_safety/index.htm

Center for Health Policy Studies

The Center for Health Policy Studies provides a focal point for health policy analysis for faculty and students of the School of Public Health, other UTHSC-H schools and other University of Texas components. Research and technical services carried out by the Center assist national, state and local governments, community organizations, universities and other entities by constructing factual information bases, analyzing the effects of alternative proposals to solve problems, assessing program impacts and providing expert consultation.

Source: Virginia C. Kennedy, School of Public Health

Center for Health Promotion & Prevention Research

The mission of the Center for Health Promotion and Prevention Research (CHPPR) is to conduct research to develop, evaluate and disseminate health promotion and disease prevention programs in diverse settings and populations. The CHPPR is a CDC Prevention Research Center and a World Health Organization Collaborating Center. The CHPPR has formal collaborative agreements with the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands and Queensland University of Technology in Australia. The CHPPR trains pre- and post-doctoral fellows in behavioral science cancer prevention and control through funding from the National Cancer Institute. The Center's Continuing Education Network offers professional development for public health practitioners.

In 2002 the CHPPR had 8,973,165 dollars in external funding for over 50 research projects focusing on: cancer prevention and control, tobacco use prevention and smoking cessation, drug abuse, sexual risk behaviors, asthma management, physical activity, alcohol abuse, cardiovascular health in children, youth health behaviors, diabetes prevention in children, women's health, injury prevention, comprehensive school health, CD- Rom based health promotion programs and obesity prevention in youth.

Source: Steven H. Kelder, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/chppr/>

Center for Health Services Research

The Center for Health Services Research (CHSR) will conduct research and provide technical assistance and training in the organization, financing, and outcomes of health services, systems, and policies. Center faculty and students will apply health services research methods related to the design and evaluation of individually targeted healthcare and community-based public health services. Three major areas will be emphasized: (1) clarify the costs and benefits of health promotion, protection,

prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation services; (2) identify and evaluate financing and service delivery initiatives to better serve uninsured, low-income populations; and, (3) identify and evaluate relevant federal, state, and local health policy related to these issues.

The Center will complement other research activities within the UTHSC-Houston and School of Public Health (SPH) by applying basic research on causal relationships, intervention design, and population surveillance to service, system, and policy questions. The CHSR will provide graduate and postgraduate training and practice opportunities for students and fellows, and collaborative research opportunities with other centers, institutes, and external organizations where knowledge of financing, evaluation, organizational relationships, and policy is important. It will create opportunities for research collaboration among faculty and students at the Houston and regional UTSPH campuses and the Texas Medical Center, as well as with other public and private organizations throughout Texas.

Sources: Charles E. Begley, PhD (713-500-9179)
and David R. Lairson, PhD (713-500-9176)

Center for Human Development Research

The Center for Human Development Research (CHDR) is a multidisciplinary center for research on developmental psychopathology and developmental disabilities, based in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston-Medical School. Our mission is to be a center of excellence in research, education, clinical and community service related to all aspects of human development and developmental psychopathology. Our goal is to improve the lives of people with developmental disorders or mental illness originating in childhood, through research on the nature, causes, and treatment of these disorders.

Source: Katherine A. Loveland, Ph.D., Director
Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/chdr/>

Center for Improving the Readiness of Children for Learning & Education

The Center for Improving the Readiness of Children for Learning & Education (CIRCLE) is actively involved in numerous research and training activities related to the goal of promoting quality learning environments for young children. The child development faculty colleagues and research and training staff of CIRCLE have developed a large research database on early childhood from numerous research programs supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Development, numerous foundations, as well as seed grants from UTHSC-H. Translation of the findings of CIRCLE research has resulted in the development and delivery of several ongoing training and service programs in Texas. Most recently, a collaboration with the Episcopal Health Charities has resulted in a community-based early childhood program with neighborhood mentors, parents and childcare agencies. Also, through funding from the US Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children & Families, the Texas Education Agency, the Bank of America and the Meadows Foundation, CIRCLE conducts demonstration teacher training projects across Texas and the United States.

Source: Susan Landry, Medical School
Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/circle/>

Center for Infectious Diseases

The Center for Infectious Diseases (CID) was created by the Texas Legislature in 1989. It is housed in the UTHSC-H School of Public Health and consists of offices and research laboratories. The Center's mission is to address the problems of emerging infectious diseases in Texas, especially HIV-related issues, and to develop fundable and sustaining research programs. Current programs include studies in

hepatitis viruses, parasitic infections, traveler's diarrhea, HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, zoonotic diseases and respiratory diseases. Although the research program is of primary importance, the Center is also dedicated to educating and training public health professionals by involving students and trainees in laboratory research projects. CID members consist of public health and medical researchers brought together for a multidisciplinary approach to infectious disease problems. Center investigators are also involved in a number of international studies and collaborations in the US/Mexico border area and at other non-US sites with the recognition that immigration and travel have introduced a variety of non-endemic diseases into the state. In this respect, the AIDS Research and Control Center located in Mumbai, India, provides an important and valuable site for HIV-related studies, such as heterosexual transmission, an increasing problem in the Texas population. Through a strong program of research and education, CID scientists are working to find ways in which to identify, control and prevent infectious diseases that threaten the public health.

Source: Cynthia Chappell, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/cid/>

Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine & Care

The Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine and Care (CLAMC) provides laboratory animals and support to more than \$25 million in biomedical research projects. The accredited facilities and programs provide professional veterinary, surgical and animal care services in support of principal investigators' animal use studies. CLAMC staff includes four veterinarians, seven veterinary technicians and over 30 animal care and support personnel. The physical facilities include vivaria in four UTHSC-H buildings, a modern experimental surgery suite and an off-site satellite facility. The CLAMC is an integral part of UTHSC-H's research and teaching mission and provides the highest standards possible for ensuring the health and well-being of laboratory animals used in biomedical research.

Source: Brad Goodwin, Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine & Care

Website: <http://research.uth.tmc.edu/clamc/>

Center for Membrane Biology

The Center for Membrane Biology is housed in The University of Texas Medical School and is dedicated to advancing our understanding of the structure, function, evolution, and roles of biological membranes in cells and organelles. It is our mission to conduct membrane research on the cutting edge, stimulate and coordinate graduate education in membrane biology, and foster career development of membrane scientists in a world-class center of research excellence.

Our newly formed Center, housed in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, with participation also of the Departments of Integrative Biology & Pharmacology, and Microbiology & Molecular Genetics, is currently undergoing a major expansion, which has created career opportunities for new students, post-doctoral researchers, and new faculty members.

Source: John Spudich, Director

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/cmb/>

Center for Nursing Research

Developed in 1986, the Center for Nursing Research (CNR) in the School of Nursing is dedicated to advancing nursing science and improving the evidence-based practice of nursing through support of the School of Nursing. CNR supports faculty and students in the development and implementation of clinical intervention and outcomes research. The CNR staff provides methodological, statistical and editorial consultations; supports an extensive proposal review process; and facilitates the preparation

and submission of research proposals for extramural funding and protocol approval forms to institutional review boards. Other CNR initiatives include a competitive, peer-reviewed intramural grants program, a faculty research internship, an annual Visiting Research Scholar series and faculty development seminars. The CNR also maintains an electronic Research Bulletin Board.

Source: Sandra K. Hanneman, School of Nursing
Website: <http://sonser4.nur.uth.tmc.edu/research/>

Center for the Study of Emerging & Reemerging Pathogens

The Center for the Study of Emerging and Reemerging Pathogens (CSERP) is a university-based inter-departmental collaborative unit, which targets molecular biology, genetics and therapeutics of infectious diseases. The scientific goals of CSERP are to determine how microorganisms cause disease, how they resist host defenses and what microbial targets are crucial for survival in the infected host. The long-range goal is to use this information to develop strategies for preventing or treating these diseases. Educational activities include the Molecular Basis for Infectious Diseases data club (an interdisciplinary monthly seminar with presentations from clinical and basic scientists), an annual retreat with nationally recognized speakers and poster presentations from schools in the south Texas area, and, co-sponsored with the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, a new course, Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response. The Center provides graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and other trainees with a day-to-day exposure to clinical disciplines as well as the basic sciences in order to establish a broad-based foundation in bacterial virulence and its consequences. Major projects of CSERP investigators include enterococcal virulence, pathogenesis mechanism of B anthracis, antibiotic resistance, lyme disease and syphilis projects, microbial genome analysis, host immune response, immune evasion by microbes, mycology research, new antimicrobial targets, cryptosporidia and HIV clinical trials.

Source: Barbara E. Murray, Medical School

Center for Teaching Excellence

The Center for Teaching Excellence housed in the School of Nursing was established to promote teaching excellence and support the scholarship of teaching in order to enhance faculty performance in nursing education. Greater understanding of pedagogic methodology and teaching technology contributes to more efficient learning and reduces both faculty and student attrition.

Goals of the Center are to facilitate the use and sharing of traditional and innovative teaching methodologies and technologies to promote more efficient student learning; increase program participants' knowledge and skills related to teaching and learning effectiveness and evaluation; encourage collaborative teaching and promote educational research; and identify, stimulate and reward excellent and innovative teaching.

Source: Miguel daCunha, Director
Website: <http://sonser4.nur.uth.tmc.edu/centers/cte/>

Coordinating Center for Clinical Trials

The Coordinating Center for Clinical Trials, established in 1971 and located in the School of Public Health, provides individual investigators in biostatistics, epidemiology, biological sciences, management and other disciplines with the expertise and personnel to coordinate the design, analysis and interpretation of multi-center, randomized, controlled clinical trials. The Center includes experts who supervise protocol design and operation, manual development, study forms design, randomization and quality-control procedures, data processing, central and remote data entry, computer software

development and maintenance, report generation, analysis and interpretation and fiscal management. The Center has obtained over \$250 million in research funding since its inception.

Source: Barry R. Davis and Robert J. Hardy, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/ccct/>

Gulf States Hemophilia & Thrombophilia Center/Pediatric AIDS Center

The Gulf States Hemophilia and Thrombophilia Center, affiliated with the Medical School, provides comprehensive diagnosis and treatment services for children and adults with Hemophilia, Thrombophilia, Von Willebrand's disease and other bleeding disorders. These services include medical, nursing, social services, physical therapy, dental, orthopaedic, genetic counseling, psychosocial and laboratory.

An annual outreach clinic is conducted in El Paso and a satellite clinic has been established in Galveston. The Center conducts research in the diagnosis and treatment of congenital coagulation disorders and HIV and its complications. Research on the impact of changing health care reimbursement on the provision of services to children with rare chronic diseases is conducted on an ongoing basis. The Center also provides educational sessions locally and through the Lone Star Chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation.

The Pediatric AIDS Center conducts valuable research for the future treatment of HIV disease. In addition, this center provides prenatal care, nursing, medical care, social services and HIV counseling and education to HIV-exposed and -infected children (and, perinatally, their mothers) at little or no cost. The majority of children and mothers receiving care from the Pediatric AIDS Center are from low-income, ethnically diverse backgrounds. For many, the Center provides the only source of comprehensive medical and psychosocial services.

Source: Joan Wasserman, Hemophilia Center/Memorial Hermann Hospital (713-500-8379)

Houston Biomaterials Research Center

The mission of the Houston Biomaterials Research Center, established in 1995 and housed at the Dental Branch, is to support and develop research, education and training in biomaterials at UTHSC-H. Its members investigate applied and fundamental biological, clinical, mechanical, chemical and physical properties of biomaterials for dental, orthopaedic, craniofacial and other applications. Scientists and advisory board members affiliated with the Center include faculty from Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University, Texas A&M University, Texas Heart Institute, UT-San Antonio Dental School, UTHSC-H Dental Branch and Medical School, as well as representatives from the dental industry. The Center supports the specialized master's program in oral biomaterials at the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and continuing dental education program at the Dental Branch. For more information, refer to the Center's website or contact John.M.Powers@uth.tmc.edu.

Source: John M. Powers, Dental Branch

Website: <http://www.db.uth.tmc.edu/Biomaterials/>

Human Genetics Center

Originally organized in 1972, the Human Genetics Center is a research and teaching facility which aims to better understand the nature and extent of man's burden of hereditary disease and disability. Research interests of the faculty involve the study of the mechanisms and forces, which contribute to the distribution of genotypes and traits among individuals, families and populations. Implementation of these interests requires both analytic and laboratory approaches in addition to field work in Texas and

elsewhere. Currently, major efforts are underway in the Center to localize and characterize genes contributing to the common chronic diseases including blindness, coronary heart disease, hypertension and diabetes. Faculty in the Center also are actively engaged in studying the fundamental evolutionary mechanisms underlying human genetic variation. In order to accomplish these objectives, high through-put DNA typing and analysis are a major focus of the Center's efforts. The Center maintains a field office in Starr County, Texas, as part of efforts to study the major contributions to ill health in the Mexican-American community.

Source: Eric Boerwinkle, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/hgc/>

Human Nutrition Center

The Human Nutrition Center (HNC) was established in 1977 to develop a multidisciplinary approach to the solution of nutrition problems and to contribute to the nutrition education of health professionals and the public. The Center serves as a resource for individuals and institutions in the Texas Medical Center with common interests in the relationship of food intake and nutritional health status.

Because of the emphasis on disease prevention and nutrition education of public and health professionals, the Center is located in the School of Public Health. The Center's faculty and staff are particularly concerned with local, national and international nutritional health issues and with the graduate education of students who plan careers in the fields of public health or community nutrition. A Dietetic Internship program is supported by the HNC with accreditation from the American Dietetic Association. The Center promotes public and professional awareness and utilization of the nutritional resources available at the Health Science Center. The faculty and staff are also involved in a wide range of educational, research and service activities related to nutritional health issues, and maintain cooperative relationships with a number of academic, health and public health institutions in Houston, the State and throughout the country. The Center's staff are actively involved in the development of methods for assessing the dietary intake of individuals and population groups, public health nutrition education and research in the etiology and prevention of disease.

Source: R. Sue Day, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/hnc/>

John P. McGovern, M.D., Center for Health, Humanities and the Human Spirit

The new John P. McGovern, M.D. Center for Health, Humanities and the Human Spirit at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is an integrative teaching and learning center that will be rooted in the holistic principles established and taught by Sir William Osler (1849-1919), the "father" of American medicine. Dr. Osler sought to merge medical science with human connection and pioneered the modern residency program and bedside teaching for medical students. Students at UTHSC-H will be given the opportunity learn how to interact with patients on a deeper, more meaningful individual level.

The McGovern Center will build on a foundation of programs already underway at the health science center – programs in the medical humanities; health and the human spirit; and medicine, media and the arts. For example, through a health and human spirit course, students work with families in the critical care and LifeFlight waiting rooms at Memorial Hermann Hospital, learning how to listen, deliver bad news, express compassion and maintain hope.

The center will collaborate with nearby institutions like the University of Houston, Texas Southern University, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and Rice University. It also will offer workshops to help faculty members maintain and recover their inspiration in teaching, to help build a community of integrated learning at the health science center.

Source: Thomas R. Cole, Ph.D., Director (713-500-5970)

Laboratory for Molecular Diagnosis of Inherited Eye Diseases

The Laboratory for Molecular Diagnosis of Inherited Eye Diseases was inaugurated on September 1, 1994, and is a joint project of the Hermann Eye Center, the Medical School Department of Ophthalmology and the Human Genetics Center at the School of Public Health. The purpose of the laboratory is to provide genetic testing as a service for patients with inherited eye diseases and for ophthalmologists treating those patients. At present, the principal diseases tested are inherited forms of retinal degeneration such as retinitis pigmentosa and macular dystrophy. The laboratory also conducts research in the molecular causes of inherited eye diseases and has a role in training students and faculty in molecular techniques.

Source: Stephen Daiger, School of Public Health (713-500-9829)

Mental Sciences Institute

The Mental Sciences Institute was founded in 1961 as the Houston State Psychiatric Institute. Its name was changed to the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences (TRIMS) in 1967, and in 1985 it became The University of Texas Mental Sciences Institute (MSI) in association with the department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical School. The MSI offers comprehensive outpatient services to children, adolescents, adults, the elderly, the mentally disabled and substance abusers. Besides its clinical services, MSI also operates a series of research programs that are highly recognized locally and nationally. MSI also houses a comprehensive psychiatric- and behaviorally-oriented library.

Source: Pedro Ruiz, Medical School (Main Number 713-500-2500)

Link on the Department Of Psychiatry And Behavioral Sciences Website:

<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/schools/med/psychiatry/msi/>

Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center

The Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center (NUATRC), located in the Texas Medical Center, was authorized by the U.S. Congress in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, and incorporated in 1991. It is named after the late Congressman Mickey Leland, whose efforts on behalf of public health contributed significantly to the passage of key amendments to the Clean Air Act.

The NUATRC is a research facility that has been specifically charged to sponsor and gather scientific information on the human health effects caused by exposure to air toxics. By law, it is a non-profit corporation, financed by government and private funds. To date, private sector gifts to the NUATRC have come primarily from corporations in the petroleum and chemical industries.

The mission of the NUATRC is to develop and support research which will yield a better understanding of the potential risks posed to human health by exposure to air toxics, as defined by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. The Center's research program, developed collaboratively by scientific experts from academia, industry and government, seeks to fill the gaps in scientific data that are required to make sound environmental health public policy decisions.

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/mleland/>

Neuroscience Research Center

The Neuroscience Research Center is engaged in interdisciplinary and interinstitutional research in the neurobehavioral sciences. More than 180 faculty members from UTHSC-H schools and departments

engage in multidisciplinary investigations of a broad spectrum of issues that comprehensively address all aspects of the neurosciences from the molecular to the clinical. These studies may hold the key to understanding, preventing and treating chronically debilitating neural and behavioral disorders, such as dementia resulting from Alzheimer's disease; mental retardation, learning and developmental disabilities; mental illnesses; alcoholism and other substance-abuse problems; and loss of cognitive functions due to factors such as the aging process and head trauma. The Neuroscience Research Center publishes a quarterly newsletter and a monthly news sheet identifying ongoing research efforts and activities in the neurosciences; organizes various neuroscience lectures, including a Distinguished Lectureship Series and seminars; sponsors a course in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; hosts an annual Neuroscience poster session; and fosters the exchange of information and discussion of new initiatives. As the structural foundation of its activities, the NRC utilizes the resources of six schools of UTHSC-H, creating a rich and unique environment for research that spans both the clinical and basic science fields of inquiry. Departments with significant research activities within the Medical School include Neurobiology and Anatomy, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, and Integrative Biology and Pharmacology. Clinical departments utilize the facilities of Memorial Hermann Hospital, the major teaching hospital of UTHSC-H Medical School; The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, a renowned oncology referral hospital and research institution; The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research; St. Joseph's Hospital; St. Luke's Hospital, a leading private hospital; The University of Texas Mental Sciences Institute, a clinical research center offering comprehensive outpatient treatment programs; Shriner's Hospital; the Harris County Psychiatric Center, a 250-bed psychiatric hospital; Texas Children's Hospital and Lyndon Baines Johnson General Hospital, a full-service county hospital.

Source: John H. Byrne, Medical School

Website: <http://nba.uth.tmc.edu/nrc/>

Southwest Center for Occupational & Environmental Health

The Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (SWCOEH) was first established at the School of Public Health in 1977. Its mission is to promote health, safety and well-being in the workplace and the community. The goal of the Center is to respond to the critical need for well-trained occupational and environmental health specialists by providing graduate-level academic training and continuing education with an underlying foundation of a state-of-the-art occupational and environmental health research program. It is a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health-supported Education and Research Center, a National Institutes of Health (Fogarty International Center) funded International Environmental and Occupational Health Research Training Center and, since 1985, a World Health Organization Collaborating Center in Occupational Health.

The Center provides academic training in the core areas of industrial hygiene, occupational health for nurses, occupational medicine, occupational safety engineering, as well as in the special emphasis areas of occupational epidemiology and injury prevention. Interdisciplinary courses and activities are offered to ensure interaction between faculty and students in the core disciplines. SWCOEH maintains an active research program. Current domestic research interests and activities include: a bladder cancer screening and education program in the petrochemical industry; occupational and environmental risk factors for asthma; environmental lead poisoning surveillance systems; and health issues of migrant farm workers. International research interests and activities include: health care worker training programs in Latin America; development of standard curricula in international occupational health; environmental aspects of diarrheal disease in children; ergonomic standards and applications in Latin America; and worker safety training in the petrochemical industry.

The Center's Continuing Education and Outreach program offers courses annually in Region VI and internationally to practicing occupational health professionals, professionals in related disciplines,

paraprofessionals and technicians in a variety of aspects of occupational and environmental health. A hazardous substance training program, under the auspices of the Continuing Education Program, offers training to health and safety professionals in minority colleges and universities. Outreach activities are provided at the local, regional and international levels, through consultation, clinical services, presentations, community service and offering of scholarships and pilot project research awards.

Source: George Delclos, School of Public Health

Website: <http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/swcoeh/>

Structural Biology Center

Molecular mechanisms in cells are orchestrated by the cooperative activities of molecular machines built from amino and nucleic acids. Efforts to resolve the molecular architecture and functional design of these molecular machines are essential for an understanding of normal biological processes as well as the structural basis of disease states. Structural biology is the evolving branch of basic science that aims to provide detailed three-dimensional structures of molecular machines. The importance of structural biology will be amplified as researchers are challenged to identify the structures of proteins encoded by the tens of thousands of human genes.

The Center focuses on excellence in the three primary methods for resolving molecular structures – nuclear magnetic resonance, electron microscopy and x-ray crystallography. The Center will be a focal point for structural biology research at the Medical School and within the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. In this way, the Center and its faculty provide UTHSC-H with a valuable and much needed resource for research and training in structural biology. Many collaborative projects with UTHSC-H faculty are anticipated thus significantly enhancing UTHSC-H's overall research enterprise.

Source: John A. Putkey, Medical School

Trauma Research Center

The Medical School's Trauma Research Center interest is in elucidating the pathogenesis of post injury multiple organ failure (MOF). Specifically, the Center's four basic research projects and one intensive care unit clinical study investigate how traumatic stresses cause gut dysfunction and how gut dysfunction contributes to MOF. When the Center was established in 1988, it was the first in the United States to concentrate on the role of the gastrointestinal tract in MOF. The Center, which is multi-departmental and multi-institutional, is funded by the National Institutes of Health. This year a formal postgraduate research training program has been added. The Medical School investigators represent the departments of surgery, integrative biology and pharmacology, internal medicine, biochemistry and pediatrics as well as academic computing and the Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine and Care. The department of biology at the University of Houston is also part of the Center's activity.

Source: Frederick Moore, Medical School

Website: <http://utsurg.uth.tmc.edu/trauma/>

University Clinical Research Center

The University Clinical Research Center (UCRC) provides an optimal setting for controlled clinical investigations into the cause, progression, prevention, control and care of human disease. Accredited and funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the UCRC also serves as an environment for training health professionals in clinical research. The NIH funds the inpatient/outpatient facility and the necessary nursing, dietary and administrative staff. A computer systems manager and biostatistician are available to assist investigators with data management and analysis. Patient care expenses directly related to non-industry sponsored research are also supported in full by the grant. The UCRC is a

discrete unit in Memorial Hermann Hospital devoted entirely to conducting clinical research with both adult and pediatric populations. Projects may also be conducted outside the UCRC with patients requiring care in specialty areas such as intensive care units and the nursery. In addition, a DNA Sequencing and Genotyping Core Laboratory supports genomics-based clinical research in the UCRC. Available to investigators from all disciplines at UTHSC-H, the UCRC encourages collaborative research.

Source: Joy Lilljedahl, University Clinical Research Center

Website: http://www.uth.tmc.edu/uth_orgs/crc/

Degrees Offered at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

| School/Program | Cert. | Bach. | Mast. | Doc. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Medical School | | | | |
| M.D. | | | | X |
| M.S. in Clinical Research | | | X | |
| Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | | | | |
| M.S. in Biomedical Sciences (with concentration in Biochemistry, Biomathematics and Biostatistics, Biophysics, Cancer Biology, Cell Biology, Environmental and Molecular Carcinogenesis, Genes and Development, Genetic Counseling, Human and Molecular Genetics, Immunology, Integrative Biology, Medical Physics, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Molecular Biology, Molecular Pathology, Neuroscience, Oral Biomaterials, Pharmacology, Physiology, Radiation Biology, Regulatory Biology, Reproductive Biology, Toxicology, Virology and Gene Therapy). | | | X | |
| Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (with concentration in Biochemistry, Biomathematics and Biostatistics, Biophysics, Cancer Biology, Cell Biology, Environmental and Molecular Carcinogenesis, Genes and Development, Human and Molecular Genetics, Immunology, Integrative Biology, Medical Physics, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Molecular Biology, Molecular Pathology, Neuroscience, Pharmacology, Physiology, Radiation Biology, Regulatory Biology, Reproductive Biology, Toxicology, Virology and Gene Therapy). | | | | X |
| Dental Branch | | | | |
| D.D.S. | | | | X |
| M.S.* / Advanced Education Programs (General Practice Residency (GPR), general dentistry (AEGD), dental public health, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial pathology, oral and maxillofacial surgery*, orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics*, pediatric dentistry*, periodontics*, prosthodontics,* general practice). <i>*Masters degree is optional in these Advanced Education Programs</i> | X | | X* | |
| B.S. in Dental Hygiene | | X | | |
| Dental Hygiene Certificate Program | X | | | |
| School of Public Health | | | | |
| M.P.H. (in Public Health) | | | X | |
| M.S. (in Public Health) | | | X | |
| Dr.P.H. (in Public Health) | | | | X |
| Ph.D. (in Public Health) | | | | X |
| School of Nursing | | | | |
| B.S.N. | | X | | |
| M.S.N. | | | X | |
| D.S.N. | | | | X |
| School of Health Information Sciences | | | | |
| M.S. (in Health Informatics) | | | X | |
| Ph.D. (in Health Informatics) | | | | X |

Accreditation

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is accredited to award certificates and baccalaureate, master, doctoral, and professional degrees by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), which is located at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, Telephone (404) 679-4501, <http://www.sacs.org>. While SACS accredits the total institution, many of the academic degree programs offered at UTHSC-H also undergo accreditation by specialized accrediting bodies*. They are as follows:

| School/Program | Degree | Accrediting Agency |
|---|--|--|
| Medical School | M.D. | American Medical Association/Association of American Medical Colleges Liaison Committee on Medical Education |
| Dental Branch** | M.S. (Clinical Research) | |
| | D.D.S. | American Dental Association Commission on |
| | M.S. Dental Hygiene Certificate Program | Dental Accreditation Advanced Education Program |
| Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | B.S. (Dental Hygiene) | |
| | M.S. with specialization in Genetic Counseling | American Board of Medical Genetics |
| School of Public Health | M.S. with specialization in Medical Physics | American Association of Physicists in Medicine |
| | M.P.H.† | Council on Education for Public Health |
| School of Nursing | M.S.† | |
| | Dr.P.H. | |
| | Ph.D. | |
| School of Nursing | B.S.N. | Board of Nurse Examiners and National League for Nursing Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education |
| | M.S.N. | |
| <i>Nurse Anesthesia</i> | D.S.N. | |
| | Certificate | Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs |
| School of Health Information Sciences | M.S. (Health Informatics) | |
| | Ph.D. (Health Informatics) | |

* The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is also accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

** The Dental Branch is also accredited by the Association of Continuing Dental Education.

† The Industrial Hygiene curriculum in the MPH and MS degree programs is accredited by the Related Accreditation Commission (RAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)

Teaching Affiliations

UTHSC-H currently has more than 250 formal educational affiliation agreements with other institutions and agencies in the greater Houston area and the state, including a dozen major hospitals, city and neighborhood clinics, public schools, and other sites that provide settings for clinical services. Primary affiliations include those listed below; a list of other affiliations can be found on the pages following.

Memorial Hermann Hospital is the primary teaching affiliate of the UTHSC-H Medical School and Dental Branch. Memorial Hermann Hospital and the Health Science Center work toward the goals of exemplary patient care, innovative teaching, community service, and productive research. The Dental Branch operates general practice, pediatric dentistry, and oral and maxillofacial surgery clinics in conjunction with Memorial Hermann Hospital as part of the advanced dental education programs. A more detailed description is given under the Memorial Hermann Hospital and Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital heading.

Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital is a 300-bed public facility staffed by faculty and residents of the UTHSC-H Medical School and Dental Branch (oral surgery only). The hospital, owned and operated by the Harris County Hospital District, is medically staffed by Affiliated Medical Services, an organization formed through an agreement between the Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine.

The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and UTHSC-H, together with the Texas A&M Institute of Biosciences and Technology, collaborate extensively in research and education. Many faculty of M. D. Anderson Cancer Center have joint appointments in most UTHSC-H units, and UTHSC-H students and residents gain clinical experience at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in a variety of medical, dental and nursing specialties. A more detailed description is given under **The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center** heading.

The Medical School has affiliations with institutions where residents do rotations, including St. Joseph Hospital, for internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics, orthopedic surgery, radiology, urology; Harris County Psychiatric Center; Texas Heart Institute, for anesthesiology and cardiology; St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, for internal medicine, family practice, neurology, pathology, and surgery; Memorial Hospital Southwest and San Jacinto Methodist Hospital in Baytown, for family medicine; Shriners Hospitals for Children–Houston, for orthopaedics; and Texas Children's Hospital, for radiology.

The Dental Branch has affiliations with institutions for dental student, dental hygiene student, and resident rotations and training. Hospital affiliations include: Ben Taub General, LBJ General, Memorial Hermann, The Methodist Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Community clinics and organizations include: Acres Home, Bering-Omega Clinic, Brazos Valley Community Action Agency, Communities in Schools Houston, Fort Bend Family Health Center, Good Neighbor Health Center, Harris County, Harris County Hospital District, HISD, Northeast Community Health Center, Richmond State School, Rusk Elementary School Health Project, San Jose Clinic, and St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities.

Texas A&M University College of Engineering and the **School of Public Health** offer a consortial program in occupational health and safety for pre- and postdoctoral education and research training in the academic areas of medicine, nursing, industrial hygiene, and safety engineering. The program is administered through the Southwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety, one of 14 centers officially designated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

The Harris County Psychiatric Center/Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences affiliations or program agreements include the UTHSC-H School of Nursing; College of the Mainland (nursing); DeBaKey High School for Health Professions (preceptorship program); Houston Baptist University (psychology and nursing); Houston Community College (Emergency Medical Tech. (EMT) and nursing); Lee College (EMT and nursing); Prairie View A&M (nursing); Sam Houston State University (music therapy and psychology); San Jacinto College South (nursing); Stephen F. Austin State University (nursing and psychology); Texas Southern University (psychology, social work, and health information management); Texas Woman's University (nursing); University of Houston (nursing, psychology, and social work); University of Houston-Clear Lake (psychology and counseling/educational psychology); University of Mississippi (occupational therapy); University of Montreal (psychology); UT-Austin (social work); UT-El Paso (occupational therapy); and UT Medical Branch (nursing). Psychology residents from a variety of institutions are also trained.

UTHSC-H has academic affiliations with numerous universities in Latin America, Western and Eastern Europe, and Asia that permit interested students to arrange, on an individual basis, periods of study or research abroad. We recognize that health and biomedical sciences are global in scope and encourage academic exchange with other countries and cultures.

Concurrent/Inter-Institutional Enrollment

The University of Houston, Texas Woman's University, UT at Brownsville, UT at El Paso, UTMB in Galveston, UTHSC-San Antonio, and UTHSC-H have concurrent enrollment agreements that allow students enrolled in one institution to enroll for support courses in another institution. Additionally, UTHSC-H has inter-institutional agreements with **Rice University and Baylor College of Medicine**.

The mechanism for payment of tuition and fees vary according to the individual institution. Consult with the Registrar's Office for specific details at the following website: <http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/Registration/ConcurEnrollment.html> or call 713-500-3361. Harris County Psychiatric Center

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center (UTHCPC) opened in 1986 and is the only acute care, public psychiatric facility in Harris County serving persons with debilitating chronic mental illness.

UTHCPC is dedicated to excellence and leadership in the treatment of persons with mental illness. It shares the additional unique missions of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston of conducting research into the causes and cures of mental illness, providing education of professionals in the care of mental illness and acting as a community resource providing outreach to the community.

- UTHCPC offers a comprehensive program of community-based, in-patient, partial hospitalization and outpatient diagnostic and treatment services for: Children and adolescents, ages 3 through 17 with depression, bipolar disease, schizophrenia, personality disorders, attention deficit disorders and hyperactivity disorder; and
- Adults ages 18 and up with bipolar disorders, depression, schizophrenia, dementia, psychosocial or personality disorders.

UTHCPC's treatment programs offer individualized treatment plans; individual and group counseling and therapy; family participation; discharge planning and community follow-up referrals; as well as a multidisciplinary team approach, including, as needed, psychiatrists, nurses, residents, psychologists, social workers, clinical programming therapists, dietitians and clergy.

During FY 2002, UTHCPC served more than 6,100 in-patients and provided more than 7,600 patient-days of outpatient and partial hospitalization care. Additionally, more than 600 students received practical experience in the fields of medicine, psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social work, pharmacy and activity therapy.

Community-based outreach programs included the provision of services at Gulf Coast Community Head Start, Wesley Community Center, The Children's Assessment Center, and The UTHSC-H Recovery Campus. In addition, the hospital operates a tele-education program offered to nine local school districts and social service agencies providing information about behavioral issues.

Website: <http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/>

Texas Medical Center

Texas Medical Center is a comprehensive medical complex that was organized in the mid-1940s as a means for coordinating medical and health education, patient care, and related research in a not-for-profit setting. Today it stands as a major health care resource that provides extraordinary opportunities to obtain a broad base of professional experience. More than 100 permanent buildings now occupy more than 800 acres which include 15 patient care facilities and more than 22 academic institutions. There are 12,227 volunteers who assist with a wide variety of tasks benefiting the Texas Medical Center.

Approximately 68,000 full- and part-time employees work in the Texas Medical Center in member institutions with a combined annual operating budget in excess of \$5.4 billion. Texas Medical Center hospitals contain more than 5,612 licensed beds and 345 bassinets. Over 5.1 million patient visits were recorded in 2001, the most recent year of record.

With more than 19,332 students enrolled in regular classes, 2,366 students taking non-short-term courses, and 70,568 attending workshops for professional development, the Texas Medical Center includes two medical schools, four nursing schools, a dental school, two colleges of pharmacy, a school of public health, a high school for the health professions (with an annual rate of greater than 95 percent of its graduates going on to college), a community college specializing in health careers training, plus other graduate and post-graduate schools and programs to provide training in the allied health professions. The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center (HAM-TMC) Library, which serves as the accredited library for most of the Texas Medical Center institutions, is also included. In addition, research activities of the Texas Medical Center member institutions totaled \$714 million last year and more than \$5 billion in the past five years.

A major part of this medical complex is UTHSC-H, which is the largest and most diverse of the educational institutions in the Texas Medical Center.

Legend

Texas Medical Center Map

***The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Components** *[Unless otherwise clearly posted or expressed by an authorized official of UTHSC-H, the various UTHSC-H facilities and locations are open only to persons with legitimate business purposes requiring presence at such facilities and locations. (HOOP policy 2.09 Use of University Facilities, updated 10/96)]*

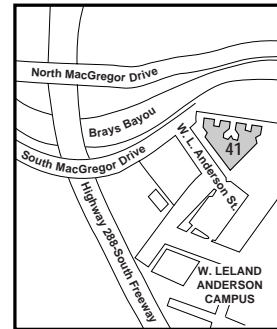
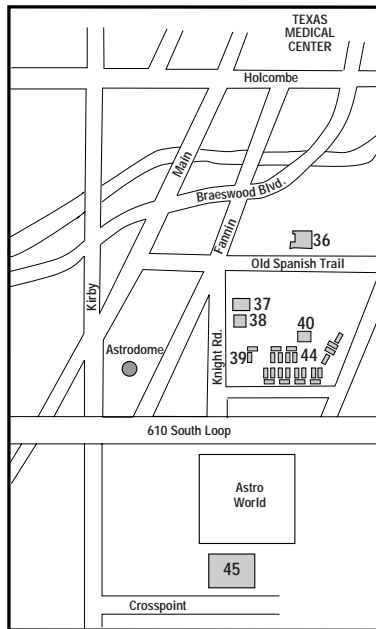
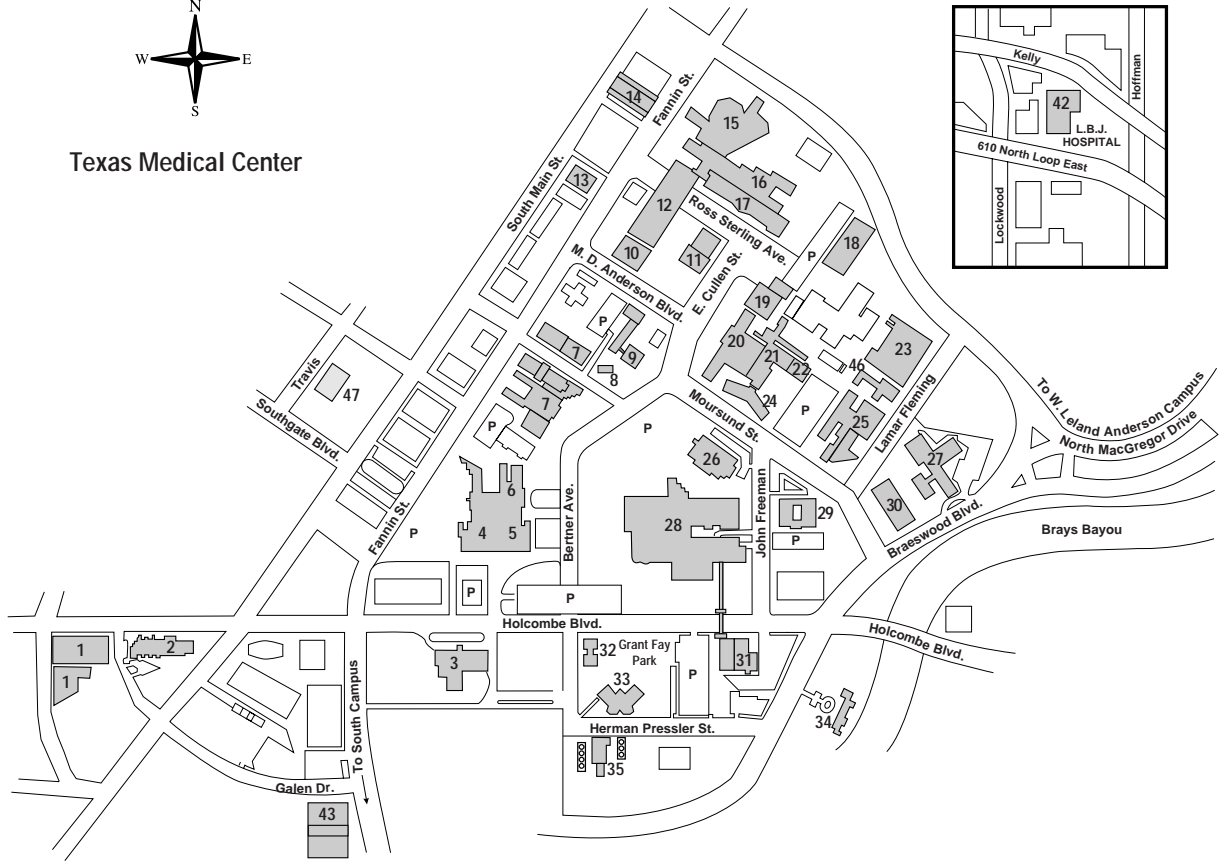
1. Texas Medical Center Conference and News Center and General Offices
2. Texas A&M University Albert B. Alkek Institute of Biosciences and Technology; ***Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases**
3. The Houston Main Building: The UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (UTMDACC); ***UTHSC-H Information Services; *UTHSC-H School of Nursing**
4. Texas Children's Hospital
5. St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital Complex
6. Texas Heart Institute
7. The Methodist Hospital Complex
8. The Institute of Religion
9. Texas Woman's University
10. ***John Freeman Building (UTHSC-H Medical School)**
11. Jesse H. Jones Library Building: Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library; Texas Medical Center Executive Offices; Harris County Medical Society; Texas Medical Center Parking Garage 3; South Central Network of Libraries of Medicine–Regional Medical Library
12. ***UTHSC-H Medical School**
13. Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing
14. Hermann Professional Building
15. Hermann Hospital Cullen Pavilion
16. Hermann Hospital Jones Pavilion and Hermann Children's Hospital
17. Hermann Hospital (Administration) Robertson Pavilion
18. Ben Taub General Hospital Garage
19. Baylor College of Medicine Michael E. DeBakey Center for Biomedical Education and Research
20. Baylor College of Medicine (Administration); Roy and Lillie Cullen Building; M.D. Anderson Hall; and Jesse H. Jones Hall
21. Baylor College of Medicine Ben Taub Research Center; Howard Hughes Medical Institute
22. Baylor College of Medicine Vivian and Bob Smith Medical Research Building
23. Ben Taub General Hospital
24. Baylor College of Medicine Jewish Institute of Medical Research

25. TIRR (The Institute of Rehabilitation and Research), TIRR LifeBridge
26. ***UTHSC-H Dental Branch**
27. City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services Central Laboratory; Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic
28. UTMDACC Center Complex
29. ***UTHSC-H Mental Sciences Institute**
30. University of Houston College of Pharmacy
31. UTMDACC Jesse H. Jones Rotary Houston International
32. ***UTHSC-H School of Public Health**
35. TECO-Central Heating and Cooling Plant
36. Joseph A. Jachimczyk Forensic Science Center School
37. **UT Police and Physical Plant Building**
38. UTMDACC R.E. "Bob" Smith Research Building
39. ***UTHSC-H Recreation Center**
40. ***UTHSC-H Child Development Center**
41. Harris County Psychiatric Center (HCPC)
42. ***Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital**
43. ***University Center Tower (UTHSC-H Administration; UTHSC-H School of Health Information Sciences)**
44. ***UTHSC-H University Housing**
45. ***Operations Center Building**
46. ***UTHSC-H Research Building**
47. **Houston Medical Center Building; *Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences**

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston



Texas Medical Center



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The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) ranks as one of the world's most respected and productive centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. It was among the original three federally designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers.

Since the first patient was registered in 1944, approximately 584,388 people have turned to M. D. Anderson for diagnosis and treatment. The majority of patients have been Texans. Many patients benefit from the multidisciplinary team approach to treatment that was developed by M. D. Anderson and now sets the standard for cancer care around the world. Surgeons, medical oncologists, radiotherapists, prevention specialists and a broad range of other health professionals provide high quality care, including one of the nation's largest programs of clinical trials that seeks to improve therapies for all types of cancer.

The Houston-based M. D. Anderson facilities are extensive and growing to meet the demand for state-of-the-art patient care and research. They are licensed as a 518-bed hospital (operating about 480), an 11-story outpatient clinic building where more than 2,000 visits are recorded daily, numerous research laboratories, and support services located in or near the Texas Medical Center. The Alkek Hospital and Clinical Research Building recently opened, providing a new patient care and research complex. The Ambulatory Care Building and the Cancer Prevention Building opening January 2005 will provide new housing for MDACC's outpatient clinics and services as well as a new Cancer Prevention Center.

M. D. Anderson's large research program is supported by external grants and contracts totaling \$253.5 million in FY 2004 alone. In addition to research conducted in laboratories in the Houston complex, studies focusing on the environmental causes of cancer are under way at M. D. Anderson's Science Park in Bastrop County. Another unit of the Science Park is devoted to the supply and production of research animals for many institutions in Texas.

Strong educational programs are offered annually to more than 3,202 trainees in medicine, science, nursing, pharmacy and many allied health specialties. M. D. Anderson also provides public and patient education programs focusing on early detection of cancer and risk reduction that can help prevent cancer.

More than 306 graduate students in the UTHSC-H joint MS/PhD program with the UTHSC-H Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences annually undertake their research investigations in Cancer Center laboratories under the tutelage of Center faculty. The relationship with the UTHSC-H Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is longstanding and quite strong. In recent years there has been a marked increase in collaborative activities with the UTHSC-H School of Public Health as the Cancer Center's prevention efforts have grown.

Numerous Cancer Center faculty serve the Graduate School as thesis advisors, student committee members and on various faculty senate committees, including admissions and curriculum. The MD/PhD program conducted jointly with UTHSC-H Medical School continues to receive Cancer Center monetary support as well as laboratory placement of participants.

Several support activities, such as the Office of International Affairs, and UT Police are joint activities of the Cancer Center and UTHSC-H.

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/>

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Memorial Hermann Hospital and Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital

Memorial Hermann Hospital is a private, not-for-profit hospital founded as a gift from philanthropist George H. Hermann to the people of the city of Houston. In 1997, the former Hermann Healthcare System merged with Memorial Healthcare System to form Memorial Hermann Healthcare System. Memorial Hermann Hospital and Memorial Hermann Children's are two of 13 hospitals in that system.

Memorial Hermann Hospital first opened its doors in 1925 on a then remote tract of land that would later become the world-renowned Texas Medical Center. Through the years, in addition to innovative patient care, the hospital's mission has expanded to include teaching and medical research, and the hospital itself has grown to encompass four pavilions, including the 12-story Hermann Pavilion which opened in the fall of 1999.

Today, Memorial Hermann Hospital and Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital serve some 15,000 patients and their families per month. The hospitals operate more than 650 beds and are staffed by 2,300 physicians and 3,800 employees. Since 1968, the hospitals have served as the primary teaching hospitals for The UTHSC-H Medical School. As a teaching hospital, Memorial Hermann Hospital offers comprehensive services in surgery, internal medicine, ophthalmology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, as well as many other specialties and subspecialties. Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital, offers comprehensive services in pediatrics including neonatal and pediatric intensive care. Memorial Hermann's renowned level I trauma center and Life Flight air ambulance program serve more than 40,000 patients each year.

Memorial Hermann Hospital and Hermann Children's Hospital are among the busiest kidney and liver transplant centers in the country. Over 100 kidney transplants take place each year at Memorial Hermann Hospital, the first to test and use the immunosuppressant drug cyclosporine. Initiated in 1991, Memorial Hermann Hospital's Liver Transplant Program has become Houston's leading liver transplant program. Among the milestones recorded by the Memorial Hermann Liver Transplant Program was Houston's first liver transplant from a living donor, which was performed in 1992. Memorial Hermann Hospital, in affiliation with UTHSC-H Medical School, has long been a referral center for treating heart disease. The President Bush Center for Cardiovascular Health offers comprehensive, multidisciplinary services for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cardiac disease. State-of-the-art diagnostic imaging techniques such as positron emission tomography (PET) and high resolution magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) enables physicians to diagnose and treat patients before they suffer heart attacks or other complications of heart disease. Other specialized services of the President Bush Center include diagnostic and interventional cardiac catheterization, coronary and peripheral balloon angioplasty, quantitative coronary angiography, and diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

Each year more than 2,500 babies are welcomed into the world at Memorial Hermann Hospital. Specialized expertise available to expectant mothers includes special care for women with high-risk pregnancies, which account for approximately 40 percent of the births each year at Memorial Hermann Hospital.

Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital is a 178-bed hospital that is specifically designed for and dedicated to meeting the needs of children from tiny premature infants to adolescents up to age 16. Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital is located inside Hermann Hospital, enabling it to share in the medical resources of a full-service, university-affiliated hospital.

Premature and ill newborns are cared for in the Neonatal Intensive Care unit, which is a level III nursery. Less critically ill infants are cared for in the level II nursery. Children with serious illnesses and

injuries receive care in our Pediatric Intensive Care Unit while young kidney, heart and liver patients receive specialized care in the Pediatric Special Care Unit.

Website of Memorial Hermann locations: <http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/default.html>

The City of Houston

The nation's fourth most populous city was founded in 1836 by the Allen brothers, John and Augustus. It was named after General Sam Houston, the first President of the Republic of Texas and commander of the Texas army which won its independence from Mexico.

The early growth of Houston was precipitated by the rapid development of petroleum refining and metal fabricating. The city experienced increasing economic diversification during the 1960s and 70s and became a leading financial, commercial and industrial center, as well as an international energy capital during the 1980s and 90s. This economic diversification includes growth in high technology industries, medical research, health care and professional services. Houston is home to many businesses, including corporate headquarters for 18 of the Fortune 500 companies and more than 5,000 energy related firms. Houston is considered by many as the Energy Capital of the World. In addition, many foreign countries and corporations have established a presence in Houston to access North American markets via the city's excellent distribution facilities. Among U.S. ports, the Port of Houston ranks second in the world in terms of shipping tonnage and first in the United States in terms of foreign tonnage.

Houston lies in three counties, Harris, Montgomery and Fort Bend and is the fourth most populous in the United States. It has approximately 4.8 million residents with a median age of 31.2 years. Within the city limits, the population of Houston is estimated at nearly 2.1 million. In the Houston region, there are 275,000 students in over 40 colleges, universities, and institutes. Houston has the most affordable housing of the 10 most populous metropolitan areas and has the second lowest cost of living among major United States cities.

Located downtown, Houston's 17-block Theater District is home to eight performing arts organizations and more than 12,000 seats. The Theater District is second only to New York with its concentration of seats in one geographic area and has emerged as a cultural center through its many quality offerings: The Houston Symphony presents a full season of concerts in Jones Hall and free summer concerts in Miller Theatre; the Houston Grand Opera is one of the nation's five largest opera companies. Theatre Under The Stars presents musicals in free summer productions and in a winter subscription season. Other major musical groups include Ars Lyrica Houston, Bach Society, Context, Da Camera, Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Houston, Greater Houston Chorus, The Houston Chamber Choir, Houston Early Music, Houston Friends of Music, Houston Master-works Chorus, Houston Oratorio Society, Houston Symphony Chamber Players, OrchestraX, and Palmer Society for the Appreciation of Liturgy and Music (PSALM).

The Houston downtown Theater District consists of the Wortham Theater Center, built entirely with private donations, which presents opera and ballet throughout the year; the Alley Theater, one of the country's three oldest resident theaters; Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, which houses Theatre Under the Stars, the Broadway Series, and the Humphreys School of Musical Theatre; and the Jesse H.

Stages Repertory Theatre offers southwestern and world premieres, experimental productions of classic works and revivals of American masterpieces. The Houston Ballet was established as a professional company in 1969 and presents a season of local and touring performances.

The Houston Museum District includes the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Modern Art, the Menil Collection, the Museum of Natural Science, the Holocaust Museum, the Children's Museum, and the John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science. The Houston Museum of Fine Arts houses more than 27,000 works from antiquity to the present, the largest collection in the Southwest. The Glassell School of Art offers art history and studio classes for adults and children. The one-acre Lillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden was created by Isamu Noguchi and contains works by Giacometti, Matisse and Rodin. The Children's Museum of Houston features hands-on activities for children. The Museum of Health and Medical Science, ranking first in America in numbers of visitors, is strongly supported by UTHSC-H and other Texas Medical Center institutions. Students at UTHSC-H serve as docents and may participate in design of exhibits.

Space Center Houston is a \$70-million, Disney-designed visitors center for the Johnson Space Center, the focal point for the U.S. manned spaceflight program and the Space Shuttle; Six Flags Over Texas Astroworld is a 65-acre family amusement park; and the Reliant Astrodome, the first domed stadium. Sports enthusiasts can take advantage of professional sports action throughout the year with the Houston Astros baseball team, the Houston Rockets (two-time NBA champions) and the Houston Comets (four-time WNBA champions) basketball teams; the Hot Shots, Continental Indoor Soccer League; and the Aeros, International Hockey League. Racing facilities include Sam Houston Race Park for thoroughbred and quarter-horse racing and Gulf Greyhound Park for dog racing. Minute Maid Park, home of the Astros, and the Toyota Center, home to the Rockets and the Aeros, are located in downtown Houston, while the Houston Texans are at home in Reliant Stadium built next to the Astrodome in Reliant Park. The downtown sports facilities are connected to Reliant Stadium by MetroRail, which runs between downtown and points south, such as Hermann Park, Rice University, the Texas Medical Center and Reliant Stadium. For personal sports enthusiasts the moderate climate is conducive to a variety of outdoor activities including tennis, golf, water sports, cycling and running.

The METRO light rail line began operation on January 1, 2004. The 7.5 mile Main Street line runs from south of Reliant Park to the University of Houston-Downtown, with 16 total stops along the way. Along the Main and Fannin Streets route, one can stop at Reliant Park, the Texas Medical Center and Rice University, Hermann Park and the Museum District, Midtown, and Downtown Houston. Trains are scheduled to arrive at the stations every 6 minutes. This is the first phase of a projected 73 miles of light rail service in Houston by the year 2025.

Adjacent to the medical center is Hermann Park, one of the city's 314 municipal parks, which features the Houston Zoo, the Houston Garden Center, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Burke Baker Planetarium, the Wortham IMAX Theatre, the Miller Outdoor Theatre (free productions), the Japanese Garden, and the Cockrell Butterfly Tower. Hermann Park also includes an 18-hole golf course, 2 miniature golf courses, paddle boats, and a hike and bike trail.

The Houston Galleria is a three-story retail/entertainment/hotel center and a major attraction for residents and visitors. Galveston Island with its miles of beaches, Moody Gardens (10-story glass Rainforest Pyramid, Aquarium Pyramid, Discovery Pyramid, 3-D IMAX theater) and annual Dickens on the Strand Festival is less than an hour's drive from Houston.

Website: <http://www.houstontx.gov/about/houston/index.html>

Student Government

Student Governance Organization

The Student InterCouncil (SIC) is the recognized forum of student opinion and the primary vehicle for student participation in the governance of UT-Houston. The organization comprises representatives from each of the six schools and from the minority and international student constituencies. The SIC contributes to the quality of student life at the university by participating in the development and implementation of policies and procedures affecting students, providing funds to support special projects other student groups, representing student interests on external and internal committees, improving communication among the schools through the publication of a bimonthly student newsletter, News and Views, and planning and implementing activities that address the special needs of students.

The policy regarding student government can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_06.html and the SIC by-laws can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/app_b/sic.html.

Contact the Student InterCouncil at:
(713) 500-9104 (leave a message)
FAX (713) 500-0933
email: sicgov@uth.tmc.edu
Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/sic>

Student Fees Advisory Committee

The Student Fees Advisory Committee was established as an affiliated committee of the Student InterCouncil and is charged with the responsibility of reviewing proposed student services, incidental, laboratory and other fee changes, and making recommendations to the President before submission of new fees to UT System for approval by the Board of Regents. Membership in the Committee consists of two representatives from each of the six UTHSC-H schools and two from the Student InterCouncil.

Student Guide

The Student Connection is an electronic resource document for students and prospective students that describes UTHSC-H and community services, and provides an overview of student policies and accompanying procedures, and information about the Texas Medical Center area.

The Student Connection is located online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/academic/student_guide/index.html

For more information about the guide, contact the Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at (713) 500-3066.

Student Services

Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

The UTHSC-H Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs was established in 1991 to assist in the coordination and management of academic matters, and in the administration of selected faculty and student services, interdisciplinary programs and international activities. Student Services

under the auspices of Academic Affairs include the Registrar's Office, Student Counseling, and the Office of International Affairs.

In student matters, the Office is responsible for providing leadership and support of students' interests, improving communication between students and the administration, and facilitating the development of policies and procedures affecting students. The Office works with other institutional and school providers of direct student services, the school governance organizations and the Student InterCouncil, which is the primary vehicle for student participation in institutional governance. The Office provides administrative and staff support to the Student InterCouncil such as publishing and distributing the student newsletter, and coordinating the Health Care Team Competition.

For more information, contact:
Office of Academic Affairs
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Suite 1700
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3066 FAX (713) 500-3069
email: Linda.S.Brannon@uth.tmc.edu

Registrar

The UTHSC-H Registrar's Office was established in March 1981 to provide a central computer-based student record system and web registration activities and other services for schools on this campus. The goals of the office are to provide an effective and efficient application procedure; to direct an accurate, facile registration process; and to provide a computerized applicant, student and alumni record system.

Other services offered by the Registrar's Office include the issuance of transcripts, Hazelwood Act determination, certification of student status, Veteran's Administration counseling and verification, residence determination and loan verification. The office, in conjunction with the Office of International Affairs, assists foreign students in maintaining their student status. The Registrar's Office is located on the 22nd floor of the University Center Tower, 7000 Fannin, Houston, Texas 77030.

For further information, contact:
Office of the Registrar
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Suite 2250
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3361
email: registrar@uth.tmc.edu
Website: <http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/>

Student Financial Aid

UTHSC-H has available loan, grant and scholarship funds. These funds are awarded based on proven financial need and/or academic excellence. Additional criteria may also apply. See the school section on criteria for the award of scholarships. Financial aid specialists are available Monday- Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to provide counseling on the financial assistance programs available to students. The Office of Student Financial Aid is located on the 22nd floor of the University Center Tower, 7000 Fannin, Houston, Texas 77030.

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A student subject to selective service registration will be required to file a statement that the student has registered or is exempt from selective service registration in order to be eligible to receive financial assistance funded by State revenue.

Application forms and complete information may be obtained online at <http://sfa.uth.tmc.edu> or by contacting:

Office of Student Financial Aid
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Suite 2220
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3860
Website: <http://sfa.uth.tmc.edu>

Office of International Affairs

The Office of International Affairs serves the needs of non-U.S. citizen faculty, students, fellows and staff at UTHSC-H. This office has the responsibility for developing approaches that respond to the needs of this population, and in that process, strives to create an atmosphere conducive to meaningful intercultural experiences for all students, faculty and staff.

In compliance with federal, state, and local regulations as well as institutional policies, all non-U.S. citizens must check-in with the Office of International Affairs prior to beginning their appointment and/or registering for classes to obtain the appropriate clearance to begin appointment and/or studies.

Among the services provided by the office are application of immigration procedures, personal advice, counseling, and orientation. The Office of International Affairs is located in the University Center Tower, Suite 130. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. with the exception of Tuesdays when the office is closed from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

For further information, contact:
Office of International Affairs
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Ste. 130
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3176 FAX (713) 500-3189
email: Rose.Mary.Valencia@uth.tmc.edu

Office of Community and Educational Outreach

The mission of the Office of Community and Educational Outreach is to establish, promote, and provide outreach healthcare, educational recruitment, and research programs benefiting the citizens of Texas, and to facilitate diversity within the institution.

Outreach programs include InterCon, a network of universities and K-12 schools, and the Texas-Mexico Border Health Services Project. InterCon (Inter-university and public schools Connections) was developed in 1995 as part of the institution's long-range goal to create and coordinate educational outreach programs to recruit a diverse student population.

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The Texas-Mexico Border Health Services Project has been in existence for the past 16 years and includes projects that assist the medically underserved communities along the Texas-Mexico Border. This program provides preceptorship opportunities for health care professionals and students who wish to have their clinical rotations along the border on the UTHSC-H's Medical Mobile Clinic.

This office supports a variety of student projects aimed at promoting an interest in science and the health professions among middle, high school and college students, campus-wide events for staff, students, and faculty, educational opportunities for UTHSC-H students, and professional development for faculty.

For information about programs and activities, contact:
Office of Community and Educational Outreach
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Suite 1007
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3196 FAX (713) 500-3363
Website: www.uth.tmc.edu/ceo

Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston has committed to enhancing diversity at the Health Science Center by creating an Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity (EO&D) with the central responsibility of ensuring that the University meets its obligations as an affirmative equal opportunity employer and educational institution. To help provide the best possible service to students, staff, faculty and visitors, the EO&D office has the responsibility to ensure compliance with federal and state laws by providing a forum for dispute resolution for complaints as they relate to discrimination and/or harassment; serve as an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) resource by providing guidance and accessibility options for all persons with disabilities; and managing diversity by promoting an environment of respect and inclusiveness.

In addition to managing diversity, this office is responsible for assisting each school with issues as they relate to equal opportunity, discrimination and harassment. As the Disability Coordinator, the Director of EO&D is responsible for assisting the individual school's 504 Coordinators (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) with the registration of disabilities, academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

For additional information, contact:
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
7000 Fannin, Suite 1690
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 500-3079
Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/eo/>

Student Health Services

Medical School Health Services (MSHS) provides health services to all UTHSC-H students. The mission of MSHS is to offer affordable health, wellness, and medical care for students and their families. A portion of the student services fee funds the programs. By additional payment, services can be extended to a student's spouse or children.

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The health services available for UTHSC-H students include immunizations required for matriculation into and through UTHSC-H, tuberculosis screening, physical examinations, well woman examinations, flu shots, fit testing for HEPA filter masks, treatment of general internal medicine and pediatric illnesses, and referrals to specialists as necessary. The clinic manages a 24-hour a day hotline for needlesticks and other exposures to hazardous body fluids. An on-site Class D pharmacy offers many prescription medications for common illnesses and oral contraceptives. The clinic is staffed by internal medicine/pediatrics physicians.

Low complexity office visits are covered by the student fees. Higher complexity visits can be charged to the student's insurance carrier. Immunizations are offered at or near cost. Testing following blood or body fluid exposure while performing educational assignments is covered by the Needlestick Program. Any charges not covered by the student's insurance carrier are the responsibility of the student. These may include laboratory tests, radiological services, hospitalization and referred consultation, and pharmaceuticals.

Medical School Health Services is located in the UT Health Science Center Professional Building, Suite 1010. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments are preferred but not required.

For more information, contact:
Medical School Health Services
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
The University of Texas Professional Building
6410 Fannin, Suite 1010
Houston, Texas 77030
(713) 500-5171 FAX (713) 500-0605

Student Health Insurance

The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System approved mandating health insurance for students enrolled in the U.T. System health components, including students previously enrolled. The Board of Regents has authorized the assessment of a health insurance fee for each semester to each student who cannot provide evidence of continuing coverage under another approved plan by the 12th class day of the fall and spring semesters and the 4th class day of the summer semester. Students with coverage outside of the plan can contact Auxiliary Enterprises at 713/500-8400, <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu> or email: student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu to provide the information needed to waive the insurance fee.

In addition, the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System requires all international students holding non-immigrant visas and living in the United States to have coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation while enrolled at component institutions of The University of Texas. The required health insurance fee assessed by the University includes coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation. International students with coverage outside of the plan can contact Auxiliary Enterprises at 713/500-8400, <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu> or email: student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu to provide the information needed to waive the insurance fee and, if needed, purchase coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation.

A student health insurance program is offered to registered students through a private company selected by The University of Texas System office. This plan is designed to supplement student health services provided in the Medical School Health Services. In addition, it also assists with expenses not covered by the student services fee and those incurred outside that setting such as prescriptions, hospitalization, etc. Students have the option of enrolling their families in this plan at an additional cost.

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PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- If you do not take action by the 12th class day, you **MUST** pay the insurance assessed to you.
- It is **YOUR** responsibility to confirm that the insurance charge has been removed from your bill once you have provided proof of insurance. You may view your bill online at <http://utlink.uth.tmc.edu>.
- Please **DO NOT** resubmit proof of insurance if your insurance was waived in the Fall semester, unless you have changed insurance companies.

For further information, contact: Auxiliary Enterprises
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
7779 Knight Road
Houston, Texas 77054
(713) 500-8400 FAX (713) 500-8409
email: Ronda.A.Gillie@uth.tmc.edu
Website: <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/>

Student Counseling Service

The Student Counseling Service provides for the mental health needs of all UTHSC-H students. Services offered include evaluation, short-term individual counseling or psychotherapy, marital/couples counseling, psychiatric consultation, and referral to other services when indicated. Records are kept confidential to the extent allowed by law, and there is no fee for service. Individuals who desire or who are in need of long-term therapy or of complicated medication management will be assisted with referrals. The Student Counseling Service also sponsors outreach and preventive programs, including presentations on topics of interest to students, such as managing stress or coping with test anxiety.

The Student Counseling Service is located in Suite 1600, University Center Tower Building. The office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for university holidays. Limited 5:00 p.m. appointments are also available. Referrals are not necessary and students are encouraged to call (713) 500-3113 to make their own appointments.

For further information or to make an appointment, contact:
Student Counseling Service
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
University Center Tower, Suite 1600
7000 Fannin
Houston, Texas 77030
(713) 500-3113
email: Connie.Coleman@uth.tmc.edu
Website: http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/research_acad_aff/scs/index.html

Work/Life Program

The UTHSC-H Work/Life Program was created from the Work/Family-Elder Care Task Force Study of 1995-1996 to help the UTHSC-H institutional family of faculty, staff, student, residents, and fellows reconcile the needs of work and personal life so that the Institution's missions of education, research, and service may be productively and humanely accomplished.

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To help students balance the competing demands of school and personal life, the Work/Life Program offers the following programs and policies:

- **Child Care Resource and Referral Service** –Students have 24-hour Internet access to *Search Texas Child Care* at no cost, which is the premier online child care information resource. *Search Texas Child Care* identifies a host of child and daycare facilities across the state of Texas that are provided by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. For more information, please visit: http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/child_care.html
- **Lactation Rooms at the School Site** – UTHSC-H supports breast-feeding at the school site, and rooms are available in most buildings for expressing milk. For more information and room locations, see the Work/Life website <http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/policies/BFpolicy.html>
- **Work/Life Program** – The Work/Life Coordinator for the Program provides administrative support for developing and coordinating programs and policies that help the UTHSC-H community balance competing work or school and personal life demands. For more information, visit the Work/Life website, or contact the Work/Life Coordinator at (713) 500-3013. <http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/index.html>
- **Work/Life Training** – Learn at Lunch Programs address a variety of life balance issues for all UTHSC-H faculty, employees, and students. Work/Life and Student Counseling Services offer free noon seminars to help students balance school life with personal life. Programs can be tailored to different areas. Contact the Work/Life Program with your request.
- **UTHSC-H Child Care Center** – UTHSC-H has its own Child Development Center in the TMC area located at 7900 Cambridge, (713) 500-8454. (See Child Development Center in this section for detailed information.)
- **Corporate Discount Programs** – Students, residents, and employees are eligible for discounts at several Child and Adult Day Care facilities, as well as child transportation services. Discounts are available off registration for emergency child and elder care services. On-site massage therapy is also available at a discount. (Call the Work/Life Program or visit the website for a complete list of participants: http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/corp_p_program.html. A UTHSC-H ID is required.)
- **Relocation Program** – The Work/Life Program contracts with several companies to provide free relocation assistance for employees, faculty, and students moving locally, nationally, or internationally. Please visit <http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/moving.html> for additional information.

For more information, contact:

Work/Life Coordinator

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

7000 Fannin, Suite 1670

Houston, Texas 77030

(713) 500-3013

Website: <http://www.uthouston.edu/worklife/index.html>

Child Development Center

UTHSC-H has a quality Child Development Center (UTCDC) for children ages six weeks through kindergarten, which is located within the University Housing complex at 7900 Cambridge. This program is designed to create a safe, wholesome environment where children enjoy living and learning. The educational environment for infants is designed to provide visual and auditory stimulation in an atmosphere of warmth and nurturance. The program for toddlers and older children features open learning centers that provide for individual instructional activities with large and small group

interaction. All children are encouraged to develop according to their own unique abilities, interests and growth rates.

In addition to being licensed by the State of Texas, the UTCDC is nationally accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The UTCDC program was the first nationally accredited center in the Texas Medical Center. Each classroom has its own four-year degreed teacher and follows a developmentally appropriate curriculum. The UTCDC is open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed on all holidays observed by UTHSC-H.

Parents are encouraged to participate in various projects involving their children and to serve as liaisons between their home and the UTCDC. Regularly scheduled parent/teacher conferences apprise parents of the professional staff's assessment of their child's growth and development. All parents are invited to participate in the activities of the Building Blocks Committee, which acts as a support group for the UTCDC.

The UTCDC program is offered to enhance and balance the child's social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs. We look forward to having you join us and welcome your touring our facility.

For a tour or further information, contact:
Child Development Center
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
7900 Cambridge
Houston, Texas 77054
(713) 500-8454
Website: <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/cdc/cdc.html>

University Housing

University Housing consists of two unique apartment communities. The 7900 Cambridge complex was built in 1982 and offers first and second floor units in one, two, and three bedroom floor plans. The 1885 El Paseo property, built in 2005, is a contemporary style living environment with four floors of one and two bedroom apartments with a four story parking garage located in the middle of the complex. Each apartment is carpeted and comes equipped an all-electric kitchen. The 1885 El Paseo property offers washers and dryers in each apartment. The 7900 Cambridge property offers coin-operated washers and dryers housed in three laundry rooms.

The entrance to both properties is controlled by a 24-hour guard. A shuttle to the Texas Medical Center is available to eligible UT Housing residents.

Leasing office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

All TMC affiliated students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to apply

Send inquiries to:
University Housing
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
1885 El Paseo
Houston, Texas 77054
(713) 500-8444 FAX 500-8448
Website: <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/housing/index.html>

Transportation

UTHSC-H provides a commuter/circulator shuttle operation for all UT –Houston students, faculty and staff only. UTHSC-H identification badges are required for access onto the shuttle. The shuttle service is contracted through AFC Corporate Transportation and operates from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with the exception of official University holidays. During peak operating hours (6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) the shuttle runs every 30-35 minutes from University Housing. Key shuttle stop locations are: University Housing, Recreation Center, University Center Tower, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, Dental Branch/Mental Science Institute, Medical School, and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

If you have any questions regarding shuttle services or route information, please contact the Auxiliary Enterprises Parking/Shuttle Service Office at (713) 500-3405. To obtain a copy of the UTHSC-H Shuttle Schedule, visit the Parking/Shuttle Service website at <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/parking/index.html>.

In addition to the UTHSC-H Shuttle, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) operates a free METRO shuttle from its various locations. For more information about METRO/TMC shuttle service, call the TMC Parking Office at (713) 791-6161 or METRO for other route information at (713) 635-4000.

Students should be aware that the streets and roadways adjacent to UTHSC-H facilities are public roadways and that Vehicle Inspection practices (Texas Transportation Code, Section 548.602) are fully enforced. A peace officer who exhibits a badge or other sign of authority may stop a vehicle not displaying an inspection certificate on the windshield. It is a Class C misdemeanor offense to operate a motor vehicle after the fifth day after the date of expiration of the period designated for inspection for a motor vehicle registered in Texas.

General Parking Information for UTHSC-H Students

Due to traffic congestion and on-going construction in the Texas Medical Center (TMC), much of contract parking is limited to remote parking locations. A shuttle bus or van from the remote locations to the TMC make frequent stops at key locations throughout TMC. Free parking areas for bicycles and motorcycles are located throughout the TMC.

Student contract parking is available from the TMC Parking Office located at the TMC Visitor Information Center on the corner of Bertner and Holcombe. Student parking is available at the South Extension Lot and the Smithlands Extension Lot located between Braeswood and Old Spanish Trail. Students with disabilities may obtain decals for parking in reserved spaces. In addition, TMC provides after-hours parking (6:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.) on the central campus of TMC at a discounted rate. For more information on TMC Parking, please call the TMC Parking Office at (713) 791-6161. If you need assistance after hours or on weekends, you can call UT Police at (713) 500-4357 for an escort service to your vehicle. Identify yourself as a UTHSC-H student and give them your location. You may have to wait 5-10 minutes or more depending on the availability of the after-hours escort.

University Center Tower (UCT) Garage: Parking at the University Center Tower (UCT) garage located at 7000 Fannin (corner of Fannin & Pressler) is restricted to employees and students occupying the building. However, students are granted complimentary parking for one and a half hours with the student I.D. badge displaying a current sticker. The complimentary parking is for student-related business only (i.e., registrar, financial aid, Bursar's office, and counseling). Before exiting the parking facility, a valid student ID badge must be shown with current student sticker with the parking ticket to the attendant in the Parking Office on the first floor of the UCT building for validation. Parking in excess of the 1-1/2 hour complimentary parking is at the student's expense. This privilege is extended to enrolled/current students only. The UCT garage is open Monday through Saturday but collection of

parking fees is Monday-Friday only. The garage security gates are usually open for parking access Monday through Thursday 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Fridays 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information about parking and UTHSC-H operated parking areas, please call the Auxiliary Enterprises Parking/Shuttle Service Office at (713) 500-3405.

University Professional Building (UPB) Garage: After Hours (4:00pm to 8:00am) and weekend parking is available at the University Professional Building Garage, 6414 Fannin for students at a rate of thirty dollars (\$30) per semester. Parking contracts can be attained by visiting the UPB Parking Office (G.25) and presenting their student ID. There is a non-refundable parking card activation fee of ten dollars (\$10) upon contract completion. The UPB Parking Office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information about the UPB Parking Garage contact the Parking Office at (713) 704-1225.

Alternative Transportation Options

Van Pool Info: METRO offers a subsidy per month in the form of a voucher to METROVan participants. To form or join a van pool, please call METRO's Ride Share at (713) 224-RIDE or (713) 739-4981.

METRO RIDE SPONSOR for Bus Passes: The UTHSC-H Parking Services Office serves as the ride sponsor for the University and sells discounted METRO bus passes to employees and students. You can purchase these at local food stores, but you receive a 10% discount if purchased through the University. Please notify our office one month in advance if you desire to purchase a METRO pass. Call METRO Customer Service at (713) 658-0180 to verify your zone if you are not certain. Once ordered by our office, these can be paid for and picked up at the following locations: Bookstores in the Medical School, Dental Branch and School of Nursing and the UTHSC-H Parking Office in the University Center Tower building.

Please contact UTHSC-H Parking/ Shuttle Services at (713) 500-3405 or click on <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu/parking/index.html> for additional information.

Bookstores

The UTHSC-H Bookstore operates three locations – Medical School, Dental Branch and School of Nursing.

Medical School Bookstore

The Medical School Bookstore carries required and recommended textbooks for the Medical School. Medical equipment is discounted in varying amounts. In addition to textbooks, the bookstore stocks a large number of reference books. Books that are not stocked may be special ordered at the cash registers. The hours of operation are 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday.

Included among its services, the bookstore offers the sale of Metro bus passes. In addition, the bookstore orders graduation invitations and academic regalia. The bookstore also buys used books daily from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For further information, contact:

University Bookstore

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
6431 Fannin

Houston, TX 77030
(713) 500-5860 FAX (713) 500-0540
Website: <http://books.uth.tmc.edu>

Dental Branch Bookstore

The Dental Branch Bookstore carries required and recommended textbooks for the Dental School. Dental equipment is discounted in varying amounts. Books and equipment that are not stocked may be special ordered at the cash registers. The hours of operation are 8 AM – 4 PM, Monday – Friday. For further information, contact

Dental Branch Bookstore
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
6516 M.D. Anderson Blvd, Room 8
Houston, TX 77030
(713)500-4450

School of Nursing Bookstore

The School of Nursing Bookstore carries required and recommended textbooks for the School of Nursing and the School of Public Health. Medical equipment is discounted in varying amounts. In addition to textbooks, the bookstore stocks a large number of reference books. Books that are not stocked may be special ordered at the cash registers. The hours of operation are 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday.

Included among its services, orders graduation invitations and academic regalia, the bookstore also buys used books daily from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

School of Nursing Bookstore
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
6901 Bertner, Room 280
Houston Tx 77030
(713)500-9561

University Dining and Catering Services

Mocha Delites, UTHSC-H's food service provider, is located within two buildings of UTHSC-H. These locations are in the basement of the Dental Branch, 6516 M.D. Anderson Blvd., and the first floor of the School of Nursing and Student Community Center Building, 6901 Bertner Ave.

Hours of Operation (Excluding University holidays)

Dental Branch

Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School of Public Health

Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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Catering services are available for all types of events. Catering Services can be obtained by calling either location at: School of Nursing – 713-500-4058 or Dental Branch – 713-500-9102. The Dental Branch location services functions at the Dental Branch Building, while the School of Nursing location services all other locations throughout the Health Science Center.

Vending machines are also available and located throughout the UTHSC-H campus in 23 different locations.

Recreation Center Facilities and Programs

The recreation fee entitles a UTHSC-H student to use the Recreation Center which is located at 7779 Knight Road, adjacent to the University Housing Complex. Operating hours of the facility are: 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Sunday. The facility will close during major University holidays, however, it will usually operate on holiday hours, for some of the one day holidays. These times and days are posted in advance.

Facilities consist of an outdoor olympic size swimming pool, which is heated in the winter, weight room area, cardiovascular exercise area, aerobic studio, 2 outdoor tennis courts, 2 outdoor basketball courts, locker rooms, 2 outdoor sand volleyball courts, jogging trail with 20 Fit-Trail stations and multi-purpose athletic fields.

There is also a satellite facility located at the Medical School Building on the eighth floor penthouse. Operating hours of this facility are: 6:00 am – 7:30 pm, Monday through Friday, and it is closed on the weekends and holidays. Facilities consist of an indoor gym, weight room area, cardiovascular exercise area, aerobic studio, 2 squash courts and locker rooms.

A wide variety of activities and programs are offered on a semester basis. These activities are designed for health and fitness, as well as for fun and relaxation. Students are encouraged to participate in the Recreational Sports Program, Wellness Program, Instructional Program, Youth & Family Program, Aquatics and Aerobics Programs. Recreation Center membership is open to all UTHSC-H faculty, staff, students, families and affiliates, including Texas Medical Center employees. A valid ID is required for admittance and at time of purchase of any services offered. UTHSC-H students have the option of having their spouse and or child(ren) join the facility by registering them through the “optional fee” selection or by paying directly at the facility.

The optional fee selection is for spouse, child or family. There is no charge for children under 6 years of age, and the Family fee covers spouse and unlimited children between ages 6-20, only. UTHSC-H students do have the privilege of having “extended family” members join (brother, sister, mother, father), but this must be handled directly at the facility. To get the best value, we encourage students with children under the age of 16, to handle their family membership fees directly at the facility. This is due to certain age restrictions and areas with limited seasonal use by children under the age of 16.

If you do use the optional fee selection, you will need to bring a copy of your fee statement to the facility, to obtain your optional membership. At that time, Rec Center ID cards will be made for your spouse/family at the initial cost of \$3.00 per card.

For further information, please contact:
UTHSC-H Recreation Center
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

7779 Knight Road
Houston, Texas 77054
(713) 500-8420
Website: <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu> and click on Recreation Center

Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library

The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center (HAM-TMC) Library serves as the accredited library for most Texas Medical Center institutions and is the primary library for The University of Texas Medical School-Houston. The Library is also home to the [John P. McGovern Historical Research Collection](#), as well as the newly-acquired Menninger Collection on Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis, one of the world's most comprehensive collections of books, journals and archival materials in psychiatry, psychoanalysis and psychology.



Currently, the HAM-TMC Library contains 76,500 square feet of space and holds over 333,000 volumes, including books and 2,700 series and journal volumes. Additionally, the Library has subscriptions to over 100 electronic databases and over 4,000 electronic journals. Over fifty public access computers are available to library users for Internet access and research, as well as word processing, database development, and preparation of spreadsheets and public presentations through Microsoft® software applications. The Library also offers such classes

as Navigating PubMed, Internet for Medical Research, and Navigating Full-Text Journals, in addition to instruction in Basic HTML, Endnote, NLM Gateway, OVID, PowerPoint, and Reference Manager.

Since 1991, the Library has served as the Regional Medical Library for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region, with responsibility for the library needs of health professionals in the five-state region of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Chosen by the National Library of Medicine, there are only eight Regional Medical Libraries in the nation.

Website: <http://resource.library.tmc.edu/>

UTHSC-H Policy Information for Students

The following excerpts and policy descriptions from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston *Handbook of Operating Procedures* (HOOP) are from selected policies that relate to student life at UTHSC-H. Additional student policies can be found in the HOOP located on the internet at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/index.html or linked to the university's Home Page (<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/>).

In an educational community as large as The University of Texas System, formal policies and procedures must exist to facilitate the orderly conduct of affairs. The Regents' *Rules and Regulations*

(<http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm>) reflect the general policies and rules set forth by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System and apply to all institutions within the UT System. The Regents' *Rules and Regulations* supersede all official documents at UTHSC-H and all policies in these documents must reflect the policies outlined in the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*. The HOOP implements the rules of governance and administrative procedures for UTHSC-H within the guidelines of the policies set forth by the Board of Regents.

For additional information on policies specific to individual schools, contact the Student Affairs Office in your school.

STUDENTS ARE HELD INDIVIDUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR READING AND BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH UTHSC-H POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES.

Academic Records and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) is in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, which protects the privacy of educational records and establishes the rights of students to access and correct their educational records. The full policy can be found online at

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_08.html.

The full text of FERPA, which includes a list of directory information that the university may release without a written request for non-disclosure, can be found online at

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/app_c/c_6_08.html.

Please note that in some cases, the thesis or dissertation authored by a student must be made available to interested members of the community for necessary review and commentary. A copy of FERPA is also maintained and available in the Office of the Registrar and can be found on the Registrar's Website at <http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/Registration/FERPA.html>.

AIDS, HIV, HBV, and HCV Infection

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) works to help safeguard the health and safety of students, employees, patients, and the general public against the contact and spread of infectious diseases. The UTHSC-H is also sensitive to the needs and rights of any of its employees or students who have contracted diseases that might be infectious. In recognition of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as serious public health threats, the UTHSC-H has adopted policy and procedural steps to both prevent the spread of HIV, HBV, and HCV infections and to protect the rights and well-being of those employees or students who may be infected with HIV and HBV. The full policy, which defines terms and addresses general principles, voluntary counseling and testing, work-related exposure, and educational efforts, can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/18/18_07.html

Campus Security

UTHSC-H is committed to a safe and secure learning and working environment. To that end, the university strives to assure that its buildings and contents are secure and that members of the university community are properly identified and are given appropriate access to university facilities and amenities. Policy 1.06 Campus Security can be found online at

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/01/1_06.html.

In compliance with the Student Right-to-Know and Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act, UTHSC-H collects specified information on campus crime statistics and makes timely reports to the campus community on crimes considered to be a threat to students and employees. The University of Texas at Houston Police Department provides a link to crime statistics on its website at <http://www.mdanderson.org/utpd/>. (Policy 18.04 Reporting Criminal Activity on Campus can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/18/18_04.html)

Conduct and Discipline

All UTHSC-H students are expected and required to obey federal, state, and local laws; comply with the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*; comply with UTHSC-H and UT System rules and regulations; comply with directives issued by administrative officials of the UTHSC-H or UT System in the course of their authorized duties; and observe standards of conduct appropriate for an academic institution. Any student who engages in conduct that violates the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, UTHSC-H or UT System rules, or federal, state, or local laws is subject to discipline whether the conduct takes place on or off campus and whether or not civil or criminal penalties are imposed for such conduct. The full policy, which defines unacceptable conduct and sanctions, and describes the process, can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_03.html

Disability Accommodation

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) ensures equal educational opportunity for all disabled individuals who are otherwise qualified, with or without reasonable accommodation.

If any student has questions about a disability or accommodation, or feels that he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of a disability, he or she should contact the UTHSC-H Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity or contact the Student Affairs office at his/her school. Policies and procedures regarding disability accommodation can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/02/2_18C.html.

Equal Educational Opportunity

The University of Texas-Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) strives to maintain an educational environment that is free from impermissible discrimination. No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored or conducted by UTHSC-H or any of its component academic entities on any basis prohibited by applicable law, including, but not limited to, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.

Any student or potential student who has a complaint under this policy should contact the associate dean for student affairs in his or her school, the executive vice president for academic affairs, or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity. The full policy can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_01.html

Hazing

Hazing is prohibited by both state law (Sections 37.151 et seq and 51.936, Education Code) and by the Regents' *Rules and Regulations* (Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.28). The term "hazing" is broadly defined by statute to mean any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of UTHSC-H, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any

organization whose members are or include students at the university. Hazing with or without the consent of the student is prohibited and violations may render both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to criminal prosecution and student disciplinary action by UTHSC-H. (From policy 6.03 Conduct and Discipline, http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_03.html)

Immunizations and Health Records

All students registering at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) are required to furnish an immunization record signed by a health care provider. Certain exemptions are allowed from all immunization requirements. The UT Medical School Health Services (MSHS) will place an immunization "hold" on each student's record at the time of admission if immunizations are incomplete. The hold blocks registration. The MSHS will release all immunization holds after proof of immunizations is satisfied.

Listed below are immunizations required by all UTHSC-H schools, with the exception of the School of Health Information Sciences that only requires only the PPD Skin Test (and Varicella if exposed to human blood/body fluids). Click on each immunization for detailed information.

[Tetanus/Diphtheria](#)

[Measles \(Rubeola\)](#)

[Mumps](#)

[German Measles \(Rubella\)](#)

[PPD \(TB\) Skin Test](#)

[Hepatitis B Series](#)

[Varicella \(Chickenpox\) Series](#)

The *Certification of Immunization* form posted on the Registrar's website (<http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/Forms/immuform.pdf>) includes the minimum requirement regarding each of the above immunizations as well as table listing the requirements of each of the schools.

Important information about bacterial meningitis can be found on the Registrar's website (<http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/Registration/bacmeningitis.html>), and the *Certification of Immunization* form contains a place for acknowledging receipt of this information.

The full policy, which lists required immunizations and procedures for requesting exemptions from required immunizations, can be found online at

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_07.html

Oath of Residence

Before an individual may register at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) and pay tuition at the rate provided for residents of the State of Texas, the individual must complete a Residence Questionnaire and affirm under oath that he or she is entitled to be classified as a resident for the purposes of tuition. The full policy can be found online at:

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_12.html.

Information about the Petition for Resident Tuition and a link to the Residency Questionnaire can be found on the Registrar's Website at: http://registrar.uth.tmc.edu/Services/Student_Forms.html (Scroll down and click on "Residency Policy for Instate Tuition.")

Observing Religious Holy Days

Students who are absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day may take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for the religious holy day within a reasonable time before or after the absence, as long as the student informs the instructor of each class to be missed of the planned absence(s) not later than the fifteenth day of the semester. The notification must be in writing and may either be delivered by the student personally to each instructor, with receipt of the notification acknowledged and dated by each instructor, or mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each instructor.

As noted, a student who follows these procedures and is excused from class for a religious holy day may not be penalized, but the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to satisfactorily complete the assignment or examination. The full policy can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/02/2_37A.html

Sexual Assault

UTHSC-H seeks to provide a campus environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature including sexual assault. In accordance with this commitment, and in accordance with the requirements of the Higher Education Reauthorization Act of 1992, the UTHSC-H has created a policy specifically to address this important issue. Policy 6.14 Sexual Assault can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_14.html.

Sexual Harassment

The UTHSC-H distinguishes between, and has different procedures for dealing with, allegations of sex discrimination and sexual harassment. Any student who feels that he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of his or her sex should use the appropriate Grievance process outlined in the online policy. This policy applies to the conduct of all members of the community of UTHSC-H including, but not limited to, administrators, faculty, staff, students, residents, fellows and other trainees, volunteers, vendors, consultants, observers, and visitors. The full policy, which defines sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and consensual relationships and explains the appropriate process for registering complaints, can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/02/2_04.html.

Student Government

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) authorizes the existence of a student government body that has the jurisdictions and powers delegated by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System. The student association of UTHSC-H is the Student InterCouncil (SIC), which is recognized as a forum for student opinion and is made up of representatives from each of the six schools with minority and international representation.

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/sic/>

The SIC bylaws can be found online in the HOOP at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/app_b/sic.html.

The full student government policy can be found online at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_06.html and the Statement on Governance can be found at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/app_c/c_4_26.html.

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Substance Abuse - Students

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) is committed to maintaining an environment that is free from substance abuse and its primary concern related to substance abuse among students is prevention and treatment. The institution provides educational programs to inform its community about the physical and psychological problems associated with substance abuse, as well as pertinent state and federal laws. The UTHSC-H recognizes that substance abuse is a treatable condition and, as an institution dedicated to health, facilitates the treatment and rehabilitation of this condition. The full policy can be found online at

http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/18/18_06.html

Travel by UTHSC-H Students

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC-H) supports the educational, research and service activities of its students by sponsoring and reimbursing certain travel activities expenditures. The university, however, has special concerns as to how students are asked or permitted to travel on official university business. This policy includes special rules outlined by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System to assure that students who are asked or authorized to travel are aware of university rules on travel, how to seek and obtain approval for travel, how to be reimbursed for travel expenditures, and safety rules that apply to student travel. The full policy can be found at http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/06/6_18.html.

Other Important Policies Affecting Students

Other important policies affecting students are included in the HOOP (http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/planning/pub/hoop/index.html); e.g., Chapter 2 University Citizenship and Chapter 18 Safety and Health. Additional student policies are listed below. **Students are expected to read and familiarize themselves with university policies and procedures.**

[6.09 Student Employment Appointments](#)

[6.10 Financial Aid](#)

[6.11 Tuition, Fees, and Debt](#)

[6.11A Tuition and Refund](#)

[6.13 Governance](#)

[6.15 Tax-Free Sales](#)

[6.16 Student Services](#)

[6.17 Student Publications](#)

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