



Scoop



Standard Time Change,
Fall back 1 hour, Sunday

Friday, October 29, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

- **Free Flu Shots with I.D. badge**, Mon., Nov. 1 and Thurs., Nov. 4, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Clinical Research Curriculum Introductory Course**, Wed., Nov. 3, 5 - 6:30 p.m., presented by **President M. David Low**, "Determinants of Health," MSB 2.135.

UTmost Interest

Dr. Barbara E. Murray, director of the Division of Infectious Diseases and co-director for the Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens at UT-Houston recently spoke at the IX Pan-American Congress of Infectious Diseases on "Bacterial Resistance" and "Alternatives in the Treatment of Vancomycin-Resistant Gram Positive Cocci," in Guatemala and at the XI Brazilian Congress of Infectious Diseases, "Bacterial Resistance to Antimicrobials: Challenges for the Next Century," in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and at the VI Congress of Infectious Diseases, VI Congreso Peruano de Enfermedades Infecciosas Y Tropicales, on "Pneumococci and Multi-resistance Staphylococci," "Enterococci," and "General Overview of Antibiotic Resistance," in Lima, Peru.



Hot News

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HOLIDAY FAIR DECEMBER 2

The 14th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair is just around the corner on Thursday, **December 2**, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., in the Leather Lounge. Handicrafts, jewelry, clothing and food items will be offered. For those who want to participate, call **Beverly Head**, 713-500-6512.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE PROPOSALS DUE NOV. 1

Proposals for Faculty Development Leave are due Monday, **November 1** in the Office of Faculty Affairs, 7.130 MSB. Guidelines, which allow for the submission of proposals twice a year (November and April), can be found at: <<http://deanweb.med.uth.tmc.edu/Faculty/gfdlp.html>>. For questions, call 713/500-5100.

DR. WILLERSON TO RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED AWARD



Dr. Willerson

Dr. James T. Willerson, chair, Internal Medicine, has been selected to receive the 2000 Distinguished Scientist Award in recognition of his contributions to science in the field of cardiovascular medicine. The award will take place at the American College of Cardiology's 49th Annual Scientific Session, Tuesday, **March 14**, 2000, in Anaheim, California. Previous recipients include: Drs. Jere Mitchell, Robert Roberts, Attilio Maseri, Douglas Zipes, Seymour Furman, and Brian Hoffman. Said Willerson, "It is a privilege to be included on the list of recipients, so many of whom are people I have known and admired most of my career. I believe this singular recognition will bring honor to my many colleagues and physicians in training who have contributed to our research contributions over the years."

AWF PRESIDENT DR. UTHMAN ANNOUNCES FALL PROGRAM

Dr. Margaret Uthman, Assistant Dean, Student Affairs, President of the Association for Women Faculty, is pleased to announce the AWF fall program "Planning for the Stages of a Successful Academic Career for Beginning, Mid, and Senior Level Faculty," presented by **Dr. Paula O'Neill**, Associate Dean for Professional Development at UT-Houston Dental Branch, Tuesday, **November 16**, noon in 2.135. O'Neill is recognized for her commitment to faculty development. The presentation will offer valuable information for faculty members at all career levels. Lunch will be provided for the first 35 attendees.



Dr. Uthman



DR. KNOBIL TO RECEIVE HONORARY DOCTORATE

Dr. Ernst Knobil, Ashbel Smith Professor and the H. Wayne Hightower Professor in the Medical Sciences, received notice of an honorary doctorate, to be bestowed on him by the University of Milan. The award ceremony will take place in Milan **January 27**, 2000. Knobil is the recipient of three other honoris causa doctorates: from the University of Bordeaux, France; the University of Liège, Belgium; and the Medical College of Wisconsin. He was elected a foreign associate of the National Academy of Italy, the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, in 1994.

RECEPTION HONORS DR. JOHN P. MCGOVERN

Dean Maximilian Buja honored **Dr. John P. McGovern** on October 6 at a special Medical School reception in the 5th Floor Gallery. Dr. McGovern and **Dr. Bryant Boutwell** have recently published a history of the UT-Houston Medical School, *Conversation With a Medical School*, and have established a medical student scholarship fund in their names from all sales proceeds. The reception offered Medical School deans and chairmen an opportunity to thank McGovern personally for his participation in the project and for his ongoing support of the Medical School. Copies of the book are selling briskly and remain available at the Medical School Bookstore.



Drs. Buja and McGovern

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

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Reflections on the Medical School's 1999 Research Retreat, Oct. 15-16



Dean Maximilian Buja:

"I was pleased with the faculty participation and the collective, forward thinking demonstrated by our faculty attendees. I want to commend **Dr. Jack Byrne** and the entire Medical School Research Committee for their role in the success of this recent event. While we have outstanding basic and clinical researchers on this faculty who excel at what they do, no institution can afford to become complacent and sit comfortably on the successes of the moment.

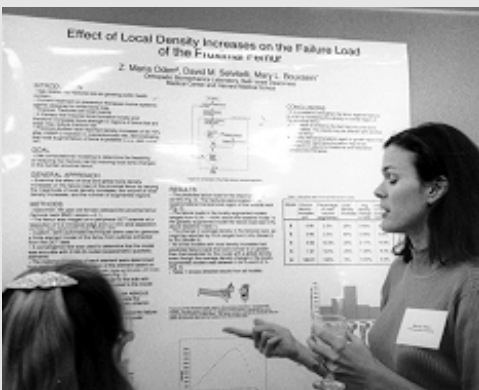
We must continue to build our overall strategic vision in research across all departments and address unique opportunities that match our institutional strategic goals. This retreat offered that opportunity to compare notes, examine collective strengths and needs, and explore opportunities for the future. I look forward to supporting additional research retreats in the future."



President David Low's Introductory Highlights on Funding:

"Almost everybody in the institution today can find a place to march. We have found in raising donations for UT-Houston that we do well, especially in areas such as research into heart disease, stroke and the neurobiology of human development. We have been raising private gifts of money for UT-Houston at an

average rate of \$100,000 each working day for the last nine years. That's \$200 million dollars. We're asking the Regents for \$50 million in Permanent University Fund (PUF) money over the next five years and we'll raise \$150 million to match it – all for research."



Dr. Tom Burks' Overview Stats and Summary of the Event:

At the retreat **Dr. Tom Burks**, EVP, Research and Academic Affairs, noted, "In the last 10 years, UT-Houston has graduated over 8400 students, 3200 with doctoral degrees (MD, DrPH, DDS, PhD), plus 1500 certificates of completion in postgraduate certificates. Our present total student enrollment is close to 3200 in the six schools. The Medical School's NIH awards for 1999 totaled \$49.5 million, an increase over 1998 of 22% - pretty spectacular. The entire Health Science Center's NIH awards for 1999 equaled

\$70.6 million. In 1999, total research expenditures (direct and indirect) for the HSC were \$105.6 million with \$71.9 million in the Medical School, representing an \$8.2 million increase for the Medical School over 1998.

Event Summary - "All the Research Retreat participants were exposed to some good science, new ideas, and a better understanding of the scope of research at the Medical School. I personally got a great deal from it. I hope the Research Committee will seriously consider making the Research Retreat an annual event. Research is a vital core mission of our university and whatever we can do to enhance it will be good for our entire academic community."

