



Scoop



Friday, July 16, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

CARPENTER SELECTED ELLISON MEDICAL "NEW SCHOLAR"

Dr. Phillip B. Carpenter, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was recently selected as an Ellison Medical Foundation New Scholar. His proposal entitled "Biochemical Characterization of a Putative p53-binding Protein from *Xenopus*" was selected from among hundreds submitted by other applicants from around the country. Selection was made by the Scientific Advisory Board and approved by **Lawrence Ellison** as Chairman of The Ellison Medical Foundation. The award in the amount of \$200,000 is for the period September 1, 1999, through August 31, 2003. A presentation will be made at The Ellison Medical Foundation Colloquium on the Biology of Aging at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Maine, **August 12-14**.



Dr. Phillip Carpenter

EVENTS TO KNOW:

- **Annual UT - Employee Group Insurance Open Enrollment Period Ends July 31.**
- **Medical School 1999 Research Retreat, October 15-16.** 145 attendees have signed up and 60 posters will be presented.

UTmost Interest

Dr. Kimberly Napoli, Division of Immunology and Organ Transplantation, was elected to a two-year term as Secretary of the International Association of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology. This organization, formed by an international group of scientists and physicians, promotes the related disciplines of therapeutic drug monitoring and clinical toxicology worldwide...**Dr. Thomas D. DuBose, Jr.**, director, Division of Renal Diseases and Hypertension, participated in the XIX Annual Course in Nephrology at the Mexican Institute for Nephrological Research, July 14-16. DuBose presented "Distal Renal Tubular Acidosis in the New Millennium" and "Acid Base Disorders in the Critical Care Unit..."**Dr. William Risser**, Pediatrics, will be participating in the upcoming "Adolescent & Young Adult Issues in Oncology" symposium, **Sept. 24-25**, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.



HARDIN STUDIES CYSTIC FIBROSIS-RELATED DIABETES (CFRD)

More than 18,500 patients have been diagnosed with cystic fibrosis or CF, and more than 20% have diabetes. CF is the most frequent lethal genetic disease of childhood, and diabetes is a condition characterized by excess glucose or sugar in the blood from the inadequate production of insulin. The median CF survival age is 30 years. CF affects the glands, damaging many organs, including the lungs, pancreas, digestive tract, and reproductive system. **Dr. Dana Sue Hardin**, associate professor, Pediatrics, has been researching CFRD for the past five years. Currently she is studying the effects of pregnancy in CF women supported by a grant from the CF Foundation. Last year, 82 women with CF became pregnant, yet pregnancy is associated with negative consequences to the mother's health. Her study is aimed at understanding the changes which occur in these women during pregnancy, including gestational diabetes.

She is also studying poor growth in CF children and is a principal investigator for an NIH grant studying CFRD. Hardin has written multiple research articles and has co-authored a book chapter on CFRD that will be printed in *Pediatric Clinics of North America* in September. Recently, she wrote a manual on CFRD to be used for patient education. She co-chaired the 1998 National CF Foundation Consensus Conference on CFRD, and also co-chaired this year's Endocrine Section for the Southern Society for Pediatric Research. For more information on Hardin's CFRD project, contact her office at 713-500-5646.

K.I.N.D.E.R. CLINIC RECEIVES TEEN SUPPORT

K.I.N.D.E.R. Clinic (Kids In Need of Drug Evaluation & Rx-Treatment) serves children exposed to drugs and/or HIV/AIDS during pregnancy. **Dr. Maria Ferris**, Pediatrics, medical director, said, "It truly touches me to see that these teens understand that there is a problem in our community, and that we need to do something about it." Teens from Memorial Middle School, Dulles Middle School in Sugarland, and several schools in the Southeast Texas region, including Needville, Sugarland, Bay City as well as Galveston County, recently raised a combined total of \$4,607 for the clinic.

ERC SEARCH FOR UT-MUSICIANS FOR SEPTEMBER 15 EVENT

The Medical School Employee Relations Committee (ERC) is looking for a few good bands. All staff, faculty, medical students, residents and fellows who are in bands that perform are invited to submit tapes/cds to **Saultczy Sabayrac**, MSB 7.024 no later than **August 13**. All styles of music are welcome and will be considered for Employee Appreciation Day on Wednesday, **September 15**. Two bands are needed to play 1 1/2 hours each. The ERC will supply the P.A., vocal microphones and power. Bands are guaranteed payment of \$150 each. The event will take place in Webber Plaza with the Leather Lounge as a rain alternate. Call Saultczy Sabayrac at 713-500-6004 for more information.



DID YOU KNOW? - Scoop is online as E-Scoop at <<http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu>>.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

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UT-H MINI-MEDICAL SCHOOL ON WOMEN'S HEALTH IS THIS SEPTEMBER



The UT-Houston Women's Health W.A.T.C.H. (Women And Their Choices in Health) will present a Mini-Medical School on Women's Health — "Living Well" — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., **Tuesdays, Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28** at the Museum of Health & Medical Science, 1515 Hermann Drive.

Healthcare providers from the UT-H Health Science Center, the Medical School, the School of Nursing, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and Hermann Hospital will present two lectures each Tuesday in September followed by a question-and-answer session.

Registration for the series, which is free and open to the public, will be at 5:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 6 p.m. Parking is also free. Light refreshments will be served. The events are:

- ✓ **Sept. 7:** "Stress Busters," **Sherry Wilson**, UT-HHSC Employee Assistance Program; "Rules for Aging Gracefully," **Dr. Linda Allen-Holmes**, SON
- ✓ **Sept. 14:** "Women and Cancer," **Dr. Diane Bodurka-Bevers**, M. D. Anderson; "Prevention and Treatment of Stroke in Women," **Dr. Lewis Morgenstern**, MS Department of Neurology
- ✓ **Sept. 21:** "Take Wellness To Heart," **Dr. H. Vernon Anderson**, MS Division of Cardiology; "There's More Than One Way To Skin a FAT," **Sharon L. Smalling**, MPH, R.D., L.D., clinical dietitian specialist, Hermann Hospital
- ✓ **Sept. 28:** "Pre-Pregnancy Planning Is a Plus," **Dr. Larry C. Gilstrap III**, chair, MS Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences (Ob/Gyn); "Preventing Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Diseases," **Dr. Michele Curtis**, Ob/Gyn.

To register for one lecture or the entire series, call the Office of Women's Health (OWH) at 713-500-6394 by **August 31**. **Dr. Shahla Nader**, MS Dept. Ob/Gyn, and **Dr. Barbara Sanborn**, MS Dept. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, are OWH co-directors. Event sponsors are: **Carolyn Keenan**, UT-HHSC Development Board; UT-HHSC Office of the President and the Office of Public Affairs; the Medical School's offices of the Dean, Women's Health, Community Affairs and Public Education; Ob/Gyn department, as well as Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories.

CAREER AWARDS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF) is seeking nominations for "Career Awards in the Biomedical Sciences." The BWF is a private foundation established to advance the medical sciences by supporting research. Their website, <<http://www.bwfund.org/>>, has information and a list of 1997 program awardees, under Career Awards in the Biomedical Sciences. Institutions can nominate up to six candidates, or if there is at least one candidate in reproductive science or one who plans to study in the *United Kingdom* or *Ireland*, seven candidates can be nominated.

BWF encourages applications from graduates of M.D.-Ph.D. programs. In addition, the Fund encourages applications from women and members of underrepresented minority groups.

The awards are intended to support biomedical researchers early in their careers and to help them make the transition to independent investigation. All recipients must have completed at least one year of postdoctoral training by **October 1** as part of the award. The awards provide up to two years of postdoctoral support for awardees with a Ph.D. degree and up to three years of postdoctoral support for those with an M.D. degree. Awardees are required to devote at least 80 percent of their time to research-related activities.

Faculty appointments can be either tenure track or non-tenure track. Candidates must be citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. or Canada at the time of application. The salary for postdoctoral support is \$38,000 the first year; \$41,000 the second year; and \$44,000 the third year. Faculty salary support is \$54,000 the first year; \$59,000 the second year, and \$65,000 the third year.

Faculty interested in competing can contact the Office of Research Services (ORS) at 713-500-3077 by Monday, **August 2**. The ORS needs all applications by Friday, **October 1**.



NRC'S COURSE - "THE NEUROBIOLOGY OF DISEASE"

This fall, the Neuroscience Research Center (NRC) will sponsor a new course entitled "The Neurobiology of Disease," designed for post-graduate medical students, post-doctoral research fellows, and graduate students. It will provide an integrated approach to neurological diseases by addressing problems at multiple levels, ranging from the molecular to the clinical.

The course, focusing on an overview of Movement Disorders, will then move on to Motor Systems and the Anatomy of the Basal Ganglia. It will address specific problems, causes, and treatments unique to patients suffering from extrapyramidal movement disorders, Parkinson's Disease and other related disorders.

Beginning on **September 2**, the course will meet every Thursday at noon in room MSB 7.037. Graduate students will need to register for course #GSB14 0021. First-year graduate students will need to obtain the instructor's consent. For additional information or questions contact **Sharon Pepper** at 713-500-5538.

Employee Holiday/Vacation Update - Barbara Legate, Director of Hiring, UT-HHSC, notes that there is website information for changes in the holiday schedule, <http://oac.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/hr/holiuth.htm>. She also notes that answers to questions can be found at website <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ut_general/admin_fin/hr/99-00faq.htm>. Changes mandated by state legislators, she notes, include the creation of three additional skeleton holidays (minimal office staffing days) with changes to the employee formula for accruing vacation hours.