



Scoop



Friday, September 10, 1999

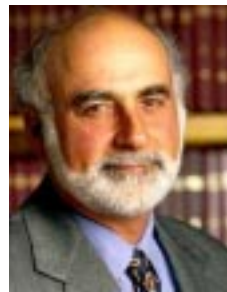
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

- **Dr. Hans Müller-Eberhard Memorial Lectureship**, Tues., Sept. 14, 4 p.m., MSB 3.100. Lecturer, **Dr. Robert Schreiber**, Washington University School of Medicine. Reception following.
- **UT-H Mini-Medical School on Women's Health**, Tuesdays, Sept. 14, 21, & 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Museum of Health & Medical Science, 1515 Hermann Drive. Call 713-500-6394.
- **Seminar in Reproductive Biology**, **Dr. T. Rajendra Kumar**, Baylor, "Redesigning the Mouse Reproductive Axis: A Transgenic Approach," Tues., Sept. 14, noon - 1 p.m., MSB 3.301.
- **Employee Appreciation Day**, Wed., Sept. 15, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., music, lunch with I.D. badge, Webber Plaza.
- **Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Seminar**, **Dr. Z. Hong Zhou**, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, "Three-dimensional Structure of Human Cytomegalovirus," Thurs., Sept. 16, 4 p.m., MSB 2.135.

\$5 MILLION PROGRAM PROJECT GRANT AWARDED

A prestigious \$5 million, 5-year program project grant entitled "Neural Models of Plasticity: Molecules to Networks" has been awarded to the Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Strokes. Says **Dr. John H. Byrne**, chairman of the department and principal investigator for the project, "Our team is extremely pleased to be awarded this competitive grant as it represents an endorsement by our peers for the work we are doing. It will allow us to further develop the field of computational modeling by developing approaches to analyze and simulate brain function which is an important step toward understanding the complex interactions and patterns of activity within the human brain."



Dr. John Byrne

The grant, notes Byrne, will fund a core computational facility with sophisticated computer capabilities along with four specific projects designed to address a variety of brain-focused investigations ranging from the molecular level to circuits linking the eye.

In addition to Byrne, faculty project leaders are **Drs. Doug Baxter, Paul Smolen, Terry Crow, and David Marshak**.

The concept of computational modeling is not easy to grasp, explains Byrne, but might best be understood by thinking of an airplane flight simulator. The computer simulates flight based on data and complex relationships between man and airplane that are entered into the computer as mathematical data. The computer simulation is not actual

flight but the computer's reconstruction of flight. One might extend that analogy to the human brain and provide the computer the data and biological relationships we have painstakingly learned about the brain in recent decades.

Thus, notes Byrne, the computer can help confirm what we have learned to date while informing and guiding targeted research for the future on questions we need to be asking and relationships we've yet to consider. "Our team is unique in that they are experimentalists who are not just feeding data into the computer — they are the scientists who also directly develop the data and that makes a difference," he adds.

HISTORY OF MEDICAL SCHOOL NOW AVAILABLE

What year did this Medical School begin? Why was our basement under water in 1976? Did George Hermann have a brother named George Hermann and how could that be? Who was Monroe D. Anderson and why did they name a hospital after him? Did you know our first graduating class had 19 students enrolled in a 3-year curriculum? All this and much more can be found in a new book, *Conversation With a Medical School*, by **Drs. Bryant Boutwell and John P. McGovern**. Developed and published entirely on outside funding, proceeds realized by the School from the sale of this \$20 book will go to a recently established scholarship fund in the authors' names. Now available at the UT-Houston Bookstore and by order. See back of *Scoop* for more information about the project and how to purchase a copy or donate to the scholarship fund.



UTmost Interest

Dr. John H. Harris Jr., professor, Radiology, and John S. Dunn Distinguished Chair in Radiology, gave a talk entitled, "Radiologic 'Clearing' of the Cervicocranium" at the International Skeletal Society 26th Annual Refresher Course in Seattle.



Dr. Michael Ritchey, professor, Surgery, was recently made Division Director of the Division of Urology, Department of Surgery. In addition, Ritchey was named the Edward J. McGuire Distinguished Chair in Urology.



PARTY IN THE PARK '99

Calling all UT-H employees! Friday, **Oct. 15**, HMB Park, 2 - 6 p.m., "Rotel & the Hot Tomatoes" perform; food catered by Goode Co. Restaurants.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

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Medical School
L. Maximilian Buja, M.D.
Dean

September 10, 1999

Scoop readership:

I am pleased to note a new book, *Conversation With a Medical School*, representing a history of The University of Texas-Houston Medical School is now available through the UT Bookstore or by order. From a new school in 1970 with no buildings, faculty or students to the Nobel-caliber faculty and multi-faceted accomplishments of today, this School has much to be proud of.

Born out of UT-Houston Medical School's 25th anniversary in 1995, *Conversation With a Medical School* was five years in the making and includes more than 100 photos along with text. Developed entirely on outside funds, all proceeds realized by the Medical School will be applied in the name of the book's authors to the Bryant Boutwell, Dr.P.H. and John P. McGovern, M.D. Medical Student Scholarship Fund to assist medical students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Copies of the book are available at a cost of \$20 plus tax from the UT-Houston Bookstore in the Medical School's John H. Freeman Building near the corner of Fannin and M. D. Anderson Blvd. Copies may also be purchased by mail from our Office of Community Affairs and Public Education for \$25 each (tax, postage and handling included). Order forms are available in G.004 or by calling that office directly at 713-500-5109).

I believe you will find this book both informative and enjoyable to read and one you will want to share with others. Contributions to this new scholarship fund through the purchase of the book or through direct donation to the Office of Development (P.O. Box 20036, Houston, TX 77225) are, of course, greatly appreciated and for a good cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Maximilian Buja, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive style.

L. Maximilian Buja, M.D.
Dean