



Scoop

April 12, 2002

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

Events to Know

April

12 IMM Seminar Series, Dr. Rodney E. Kellems, speaker, on the role of angiotensin autoantibodies, 11 a.m., IBT Bldg., 2121 W. Holcombe, 11th floor.

UT-Pathology Research Seminar, Dr. Vojo Deretic, U. of New Mexico, "Mycobacterium tuberculosis phagosome," noon, MSB 2.024.

17 Health Care & the Arts Series, Megan Cole, "The Magic of *Wit*: Performance and Recollections on the subject of *Wit*," noon, MSB 3.001.

UTMost Interest

Dr. Yong-Jian Geng, Internal Medicine, has been awarded a grant of \$112,781 from the National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, for his project, "Apoptotic Cascade in Atherosclerosis"...**Dr. K. Lance Gould**, Internal Medicine, will address myocardial blood flow measurement at a coronary circulation cardiology symposium on April 16 in Nice, France...**Dr. Kevin Coupe**, Orthopedics, administered surgical leg repair to singer Lyle Lovett, after a bull trampled the singer on his farm (*Houston Chronicle*, 3-28-02)...**Dr. Mitra Rajabi**, a post-doctoral research fellow in Dr. Yong-Jian Geng's laboratory, has been awarded a \$10,000 Everest Research Scholarship Award for her research proposal, "Heat shock regulation of inducible nitric oxide synthase expression and apoptosis in vascular smooth muscle cells."

CORRECTION - Dr. James P. Turley, recipient of the 2001 President's Scholar Award for Teaching, at the upcoming Spring Honors Convocation, is associate dean and professor, School of Health Information Sciences. The convocation will take place at 4 p.m., on Monday, **May 13**, 1020 Holcombe Blvd., 17th floor.

INAUGURAL ADOPT-A-STUDENT CAMPAIGN STARTS UP MAY 1

"Financing a medical school education can discourage many bright, caring young people from pursuing a career as a physician. The average debt on graduation from UT-Houston is now almost \$100,000," said **Dr. Margaret C. McNeese**, associate dean, Student Affairs. With that in mind, the goal of the UT-H Adopt-A-Student Scholarship Campaign, which runs from May 1 through June 15, is to raise enough funds to support the tuition costs of at least one student at each of the six schools of the Health Science Center. Information



about the program will be mailed to employees in early May. The following Medical School employees will serve as campaign facilitators - **Pat Caver, Johnna Kincaid, Manette Price, Deborah Roberts, Lynn Cutrer, Tiffany Sheffield, and Dr. Shahid Umar.**

PILOT DIGITAL SIGNATURE PROJECT REDUCES WASTE

The Medical School, along with five other universities, is leading the way in securing digital signatures from an identified researcher and institutional official for electronic grant submissions. The new pilot project eliminates the need for volumes of paper to be submitted for a grant application to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The other participating campuses are the University of Alabama-Birmingham, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dartmouth College, the University of California Office of the President, and Georgetown University.

"We are very enthusiastic about this as a way to move us toward paperless records and the tremendous benefits in efficiency and financial savings. PKI (Public Key Infrastructure), I am convinced, is the way to go in moving our university into the forefront of the digital world," said **Dean Max Buja.**

The pilot project has received the Management and Leadership Best Practice Award from the Computer Security and Information Assurance Conference, sponsored by Potomac Forum Ltd., Federal Sources Inc. and Federal Computer Week.

UT HOUSE MEDICS CAMPAIGN KEEPS ON HAMMERING AWAY

Once again UT House Medics teams will roll up their sleeves to paint and refurbish area homes in need of repair, particularly those of elderly indigent citizens. The organization is celebrating its 11th anniversary this year. Team leaders remind all volunteers for the House Medics Campaign on Saturday **April 20** and Saturday **April 27** to meet at the Recreation Center, 7779 Knight Road, on the appointed day at 7:30 am. Volunteers are asked to bring hammers, scrapers, paint brushes, gloves, coffee cans, and ladders. Those who can also are encouraged to bring snacks such as brownies or chips to share.

The three sets of team leaders for the UT House Medics Campaign on April 20 and April 27 are: A&F Team, **Sandra Hernandez**, 713-500-4953; and **Krysti Suarez**, 713-500-2241; Dean's Team, **Sharon Pepper**, 713-500-5538, **Kristian** and **Amy Hayes** and **Dr. Andy Bean**; 713-500-5614.; and the SPH Team, **Dr. Mary Ann Smith**, 713-500-9236 and **Victor Cavazos**, 713-500-9048.



The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston
Medical School

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24TH ANNUAL EYORE'S 5K FUN RUN TOMORROW

Once again The UT Health Science Center at Houston and the Houston Texas Execs are collaborating to bring fun, exercise, and a purpose to Houston at 8 a.m., Saturday, **April 13**. The race is open to runners, walkers, and wheelchair participants and is 5 kilometers, or 3.1 miles, in length. Participants will meet at the corner of Holcombe and Bertner for the race start at 8 a.m. Children's non-competitive 1K will be at 9 a.m. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for deserving Houston-area high school students. For more information, call 713-627-3938, or check out the Web site <www.houston.texasexecs.org> and click on Eyore's Fun Run. Awards, door prizes, and post race events will highlight the benefit.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE PROPOSALS DUE APRIL 26

Proposals for Faculty Development Leave are due Friday **April 26** in the Office of Faculty Affairs, MSB 7.130. The guidelines allow for the submission of proposals twice a year and can be found at <<http://deanweb.med.uth.tmc.edu/Faculty/gfdlp.html>>. For questions, call **Faye Viola**, 713-500-5101.

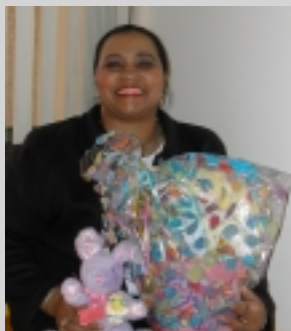
BRIDGING GRANTS DUE MAY 15

All applications for bridging grants are to be submitted to **Dr. John Byrne**, chair, Research Committee, MSB 7.046. Investigators (full-time Medical School faculty) with a renewal grant application (an R01 or the equivalent) that has not been funded within the past nine months by a national agency (federal) and is clearly within the top 35th percentile may submit a proposal for up to \$30,000 to maintain their program for a maximum of one year. Highest priority will be given to those requests for which there are matching funds available through the PI's department or other non-Federal fund sources. A letter from the principal investigator's chairperson stating either the amount and nature of the matching fund support or verifying the unavailability of matching funds should be provided.

Requests must be received by Wednesday, **May 15**. Funds are not to be used for investigator salary support or for equipment. A letter containing the investigator's request, what other federal and non-federal, national, and local research support is available and the dates covered by such support, should accompany the request.

The investigator should provide the summary statement of the original proposal, the reviewers comments, what aspects of the research are to be continued during this interim, and any new results (1 page) which can help the Committee in its deliberations. In addition, the summary budget page describing the last year of the previous grant should be provided.

SIGNS OF SPRING



Ida Gordon

Ida Gordon, Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, was one of the 50 winners in the Easter Basket and Easter Items Raffle March 27, sponsored by the Medical School's Employee Relations Committee (ERC).

The purpose of the ERC, an organization composed of dedicated employees, is to improve the working environment and morale of the Medical School community through effective communication, recognition, education, and events. The ERC strives to put "fun" into the workday with social events, contests, and raffles. For more information, visit their Web site at <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/ms_erc>.

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

Next week, join in the celebration. To commemorate UT-Houston's 30th anniversary, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity will be hosting Diversity Week, **April 15 - 19**. Built on the theme "Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers: From Traditions to Transformations," the program features a lecture series, art, dance, and music, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. each day. Cold drinks will be provided at the brown bag seminars Monday - Thursday. Friday's celebration also includes food. For more information see <<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/eo>>, or call 713-500-3079.



UT-H PARTICIPATES IN I-FEST

UT-Houston is sponsoring a booth at the annual Houston International Festival this year. The festival will be spotlighting France. Dates are **April 20, 21 and 27, 28**. Stop by the UT-H booth for fun, games, and health screenings. The booth will be located across from the Houston Public Library in the International Zone.

ACCESS EXPO IS COMING!

Doctors Without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres invites you to a traveling exhibit about the lack of access to essential medicines in developing countries. The exhibit will be at Rice Stadium, (SouthEast Gate, University Blvd. & Stockton), 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Friday, **April 19** through Sunday, **April 21**. Admission is free.

For more information contact <<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org>>.