



# Scoop

April 23, 2004

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

## Events to Know

### April

**26 Dr. Theodore Wensel**, 11:45 a.m., "GTPase Regulation in Phototransduction," MSB2.135.

**27 OPEN HOUSE. Celebrating the new leather lounge**, noon - 1:30 p.m. Formal remarks by **Drs. Schultz** and **Willerson** at 12:30 p.m. Punch and cookies. All faculty, staff, students and residents invited.

**28 Alpha Omega Alpha Spring Meeting**, 5:30 p.m., MSB 2.135. All faculty, house staff, and student members are encouraged to attend.

### May

**7 OPEN HOUSE. Medical School Information Technology Dept.**, 3 - 5 p.m. All welcome. Refreshments. MSB G.500.

**13 Annual Faculty Meeting**, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., MSB 2.006. Simulcast in LBJ auditorium, Room 217.

**30 Commencement**, 1 p.m., Assembly Hall, George R. Brown Convention Center.

**NAME CHANGE** - The Department of Family Practice & Community Medicine has changed its name to the Department of Family & Community Medicine.

**ACCREDITED** - The American Psychological Association has accredited the psychology residency program in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences through 2010.



**NOTE - Interim Dean Stanley Schultz** conferred with **Kenneth I. Shine, M.D.**, executive vice chancellor for health affairs for the UT System, who was recently in town to meet with several UT executive leaders, chairs, deans, and staff members.

## GOING WIRELESS AT THE MEDICAL SCHOOL IN 2004

If **Bill Weems, Ph.D.**, associate dean for information technology and assistant vice president for academic computing, has his way this year, access to e-mail and Internet files will be smoother than ever. "I want to see wireless Internet access available in Medical School classrooms and conference rooms by the end of 2004," Weems said.



**Bill Weems, Ph.D.**

What's all the buzz about wireless Internet you might ask? Wireless fidelity, or WiFi, can make telecommunications easier, faster, and smarter for users. A student who walks into a classroom can sit down and quickly send off homework by e-mail. A security guard at the click of a button can start streaming video evidence to colleagues; maintenance could carry devices so they could respond to emergency messages on the spot. And with the start of WiFi, 20

faculty members in the departments of Orthopaedic Surgery and Surgery will be able to access their patients' electronic medical records (EMRs) with TouchWorks software from Allscripts (see related article in *Scoop*, March 12) from new locations in the Medical School building.

Weems said the WiFi arena is ripe with possibilities for the Medical School. "We're going to bring up WiFi installation on a trial basis." Weems said present plans for WiFi installation include: wireless in the Jesse Jones Library Suite 405; the Executive Conference Room G.100, which already has wired Internet; the Medical School's lecture hall in Room 2.006; the new Learning Resource Center; and the Medical School's Room 2.135, which has a small theater-type seating.

"The Medical School building is fairly radio opaque," Weems said. This means that radio signals do not travel very far in the school's building. Thus antennas - also known as access points - are needed to help expand the 'hot spots' - or radio wave enhanced areas; and they need to be carefully placed. The access points are not very large, actually a little more than 6 inches by three or four inches, said Weems. "Which means we will need a site study to determine where to place antennas to provide the best area to cover for reception. We would like the hot spots to be as large as possible," he added.

Weems also explained that due to the fact that the Medical School is a heavy research-oriented building, activities such as neural recordings can be adversely impacted by radio signals - and conversely - radio signals can be adversely impacted by neural recordings.

"Our future is definitely moving from wired to wireless conversion," said Weems. "And we're looking at wireless speed." Starbucks, Bush Intercontinental Airport, and the Austin airport now have 802.11 capacity. "We're considering providing both the 802.11b and 802.11g wireless protocols, which are higher wireless speeds, 802.11g being the highest wireless speed right now. That's basically going from 11 megabytes per second (speed of transmitting information) to 54 megabytes per second," Weems said.

And that's taking the Medical School's electronic way of doing business, learning, research, or security - to, if not G force, to 802.11 G force.

- C. O'Brien



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

Stanley Schultz, M.D., Interim Dean  
Darla Brown, Director  
e-mail: M.Darla.Brown@uth.tmc.edu  
Colleen O'Brien, Editor  
e-mail: Colleen.L.O'Brien@uth.tmc.edu  
Phone: 713-500-5114; FAX: (713) 500-0597  
E-Scoop online:  
[http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu/community\\_affairs/escoop.htm](http://www.med.uth.tmc.edu/community_affairs/escoop.htm)  
Produced weekly by the Office of Community Affairs and Public Education



## MENTORING AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER SHARES TIPS ON THE ART OF FEMALE FACULTY ADVANCEMENT

The Committee on the Status of Women and the Association of Women Faculty sponsored a full day of motivational workshops April 16 aimed at improving the retention and productivity of valued female faculty. The impetus for developing female faculty in medicine can be traced to 1996, when then Association of American Medical College's (AAMC's) President **Jorden Cohen** charged the Increasing Women's Leadership Committee with prioritizing, pursuing, and working to accomplish their 15 recommendations. The committee found that although female students are at least half the entering class in medical schools across the country, women on average comprised only 14 percent of tenured faculty and 12 percent of full professors. The committee's report found that leadership development of academic women is "an effective business strategy...central to the long-term financial success of medical centers."



Janet Bickel

A nationally known faculty career consultant, **Janet Bickel**, kicked off the event with a lively talk "Thinking like a CEO of Your Career: Goal Setting, Advancing, and All Necessary Skills In-Between." Bickel is an adjunct assistant professor of medical education at George Washington University School of Medicine. She is broadly published and has written two books, *Educating for Professionalism: Creating a Culture of Humanism in Medical Education* and *Women in Medicine: Getting in, Growing and Advancing*. Bickel has a Web site <<http://www.janetbickel.com>>.

Some tips from the workshop included the corollary that career development is like bacteria: Growth requires nutrients, replanting, or mutation. For any organism to survive, it must change faster than its environment. Career derailers include: avoiding risks; staying in a comfort zone; being isolated, arrogant, or defensive; betraying trust; being overdependent on one mentor; being overdependent on a single skill; being politically naïve and misstepping; and ignoring feedback.

Other pointers included: know how to accumulate expertise and skill; know with whom to network and build community; know why you're doing what you're doing; and know when to adapt and when to take risks.

- C. O'Brien

## ALUMNI REUNION RECAP IN PHOTOS



Class of 1984 with their spouses

The Alumni Reunion last weekend April 16, 17 for the classes of 1979, 1984, 1994, and 1999 was an intimate and successful event for those who gathered at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

**Dr. Max Buja**, executive vp, academic affairs, touched on the Medical School's progress post-Allison at a wrap-up dinner April 17.

**Dr. Debbie Shetlar**, class of 1984, traveled the farthest to the reunion; she had flown in from San Francisco.



Class of 1994 with their spouses



Class of 1979 with their spouses

## Hurricane Tips

### HURRICANE SEASON IS JUNE 1 – NOVEMBER 30

Now is the time to start trimming dead wood around your home's perimeter, making sure rain gutters and spouts are secure, and having supplies such as wood to cover windows in preparation for hurricane season. Other tips:

- In the event of a hurricane notice, have your cars fueled; any outdoor buildings such as mobile homes, tied down; and batteries, flashlights, bottled water, canned goods, and a radio, in supply. Also protect your windows.
- Make an action plan on whether to evacuate or stay as a hurricane approaches. If authorities call for an evacuation, it is prudent to follow their advice. Those living near the coast, in flood plains, or in mobile homes, need to leave in the event of a hurricane notice.
- Before leaving, shut off water at the main and power at the fuse box. Shelters don't accept animals, so leave food and water behind for your pets, unless other arrangements have been made.
- If you decide to stay, move valuables to upper floors, if possible. Fill containers or tubs with several days' worth of drinking water. Turn the refrigerator to the coldest setting and stay indoors on the downwind side of house, away from windows.
- If you are in the eye of the storm, continue to be aware of live power lines, rising water, and unstable trees and structures. They are threats despite the apparent temporary calm.
- When an all-clear is broadcast, it is important to still be wary of high water or power lines when driving. If you spot broken water, sewer, or electrical lines, please report them. Look for gas leaks and spoiled food or water at home.

For additional up-to-date hurricane tips, see <[http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/weather/2003\\_ktrk\\_hurricaneguide.html](http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/weather/2003_ktrk_hurricaneguide.html)>.

(Provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service).

## Menninger to Speak May 18

HAM-TMC library will host featured speaker **W. Walter Menninger, M.D.**, 8 a.m.-noon, Tues., **May 18**, Kleberg Auditorium, Baylor. For more information and free registration go to <<http://www.library.tmc.edu/hchi/2004/index.html>>.