

# PULSE



WINTER 2007 | A PUBLICATION *for* ALUMNI & FRIENDS *of* TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER



*Laura W. Bush*  
**INSTITUTE for WOMEN'S HEALTH**

*New opportunities for improving  
the health of women*



**MM**

Modern-day research proves that some diseases not only present differently, but also react differently in men and women. This discovery presents health care professionals with a new challenge—designing special approaches to provide gender-specific information, diagnosis and treatment.

The Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health has created an opportunity for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center experts in multiple disciplines across six campuses to collaborate on novel ways to care for women—and those they love.

# PULSE



## Thank you for your BIG IDEAS.

Your submissions to the Quality Enhancement Plan on how to improve student learning will greatly enhance the educational offerings as TTUHSC prepares for our reaffirmation in 2009 with the Commission on Colleges, Southern Associations of Colleges and Schools.

### CURES FROM THE KITCHEN

Fruits, vegetables and spices can do more than revive your favorite recipes.



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Laura W. Bush joins TTUHSC's initiative on gender-based medicine.



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Paul L. Foster School of Medicine addresses health disparities on the border.



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New research program provides support to clinical faculty in Amarillo.



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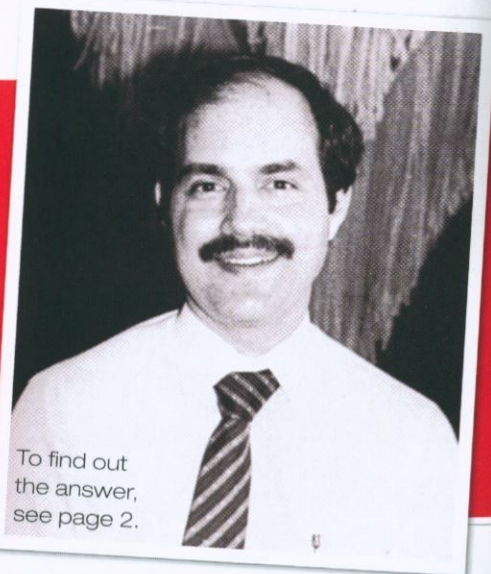
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## Guess WHO

Everyday, this familiar face greets many of the people he has treated during the last 28 years. With four neonatologists at Thomason Hospital in El Paso and an average of 25 to 35 babies in the neonatal unit each day, it's not uncommon for a stranger who he knew as an infant to approach him to chat. He has the privilege of touching the lives of the tiniest patients in the biggest ways. This doctor says each work day is filled with joy.

Can you place him?



To find out the answer, see page 2.



# TTUHSC WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT

BY JEANNE SPITLER GUERRA

Texas Tech University System  
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KENT HANCE

Texas Tech University  
Health Sciences Center  
President  
JOHN C. BALDWIN, M.D.

Executive Director,  
Institutional Advancement  
and Communications  
and Marketing  
SHARON BENNETT

Managing Director,  
Institutional Advancement  
GLENNA BEYER

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Lubbock is approximately 1,200 miles closer than Boston to the Baldwin family homestead in Anna, located north of Dallas. That alone would be a good reason for John C. Baldwin, M.D., to leave Harvard to become president of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Baldwin says, however, proximity is just a bonus. The real reason: an “opportunity to make a difference.”

“I see this as a long-term commitment to build on what has been accomplished here,” he said. “I deeply appreciate the many individuals who have put their lives into Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.”

Baldwin likens TTUHSC to his family’s homestead. He is a fifth-generation Texan, and the house built by his ‘great-great-grandfather’ is still proudly standing in Collin County and inhabited by his family. He said, “The challenges faced by those early pioneers building homes in Texas is similar to this great institution and the challenges its founders overcame. It is a cumulative effort by so many, from M.C. Overton, the Lubbock pioneer doctor who visited his patients by horse and buggy, to those who were instrumental in establishing the medical school in 1969 such as Gov. Preston Smith, to those today who are making discoveries and providing quality care from this health sciences center.”

The opportunity to make a difference stems from Baldwin’s deep-seated belief that basic science research is critical to the medical profession. “There has been a recent revolution in science. It is no longer acceptable to publish a paper that is merely descriptive—but today, medical journals only publish papers that have mechanistic hypotheses.

“In the pre-genomic era, scientists thought it would take at least 100 years to map the human genome, but it was done in just a few years. With the aid of this technology, basic scientific research can lead us to new places such as curative strategies in clinical medicine.”

Baldwin is familiar with going to new places. Because his family had

always been interested in public service and local politics, his first inclination in college was to study law. But by his junior year at Harvard, his interests had shifted to science.

Following graduation, Baldwin was named a Rhodes Scholar and studied physiology at Oxford. His lab work in pulmonary blood flow led to his decision to become a thoracic surgeon. He received his medical training from Stanford University School of Medicine and completed residency training in internal medicine and surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Baldwin is certified by the National Board of Medical Examiners, the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Board of Surgery, and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

**“THERE IS AN ENTHUSIASM HERE—A SENSE OF OPTIMISM—THAT IS INFECTIOUS.”**

“I was privileged to work with many outstanding physicians, and, while at Stanford, honored to lead the team that performed the first successful heart and double lung transplant using organs procured at a distant hospital and then transported for implantation.

“My sons say that I think universities are so important because I have never been out of one, but the truth is, universities are transformative places for society. It is in universities that discoveries are made that change individuals and the world.”

Being on the administrative side of medicine “allows me to add to the quality work being done here,” Baldwin said. “I understand the complexities of NIH (National Institutes of Health) funding and how important those grants are to progress and discoveries.

As an administrator, my job is to make certain those discoveries can happen. I will work to find the best researchers and encourage friends and donors to enable them to do their research. My gratification comes from their success.”



ARTIE LIMMER

Baldwin also keeps up his competencies so that he can continue to help patients. He said, “I enjoy seeing patients. To me, the practice of medicine is not a hobby, but a lifetime commitment.

“Texas Tech is an open door for success. There is an enthusiasm here—a sense of optimism—that is infectious. I think some of our humility is overstated. Quality researchers want to be noticed, and this is a great place to be noticed. Given a commitment to basic science research, other researchers will come because this is a very good place to receive the recognition and genuine appreciation they deserve. Once we build on the quality of research here, everyone from the community to national level will recognize the impact of what we are doing.”

Baldwin and his family have taken quickly to Lubbock and the many campuses of TTUHSC. “There is a lot of work for us to do here. I am just another addition to such a remarkable history of health care. I plan to be a good steward of that legacy and to help make exciting new things happen.”

# grand

ROUNDS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ONE OF OUR OWN** :: We are proud to announce that Kelly Overley, formerly senior director of development for the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso, has been named Texas Tech System vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement.

As director of the Infinity Capital Campaign in El Paso, she secured more than \$80 million in less than two years to support the four-year medical school, including the largest-ever gift to the TTU System, a \$50 million donation from Paul L. Foster, president and CEO of Western Refining Inc.

"I am so proud of this opportunity and very grateful to Chancellor Kent Hance and the Board of Regents for entrusting me with the position. I attended Texas Tech with my sisters, and I am happy to be coming home," Overley said. "We have a lot of work ahead of us, and I am ready to get started."



GARY VAUGHAN

**LOSING BIG** :: Move over reality TV, TTUHSC launched competitions this fall encouraging employees and community members to become winners in the weight war.

The Garrison Institute on Aging's Healthy Lubbock initiative led the community-wide fitness challenge, Get Fit Lubbock, which began in mid-September. The 12-week friendly competition pits teams throughout the city on a quest to see which can tally the most points based on weight loss, exercise and healthy lifestyles.

Research shows preventative measures can positively impact a person's ability to live a longer, healthier life, and possibly delay the onset of dementia-related diseases, said Paula Grammas, Ph.D., executive director of the Garrison Institute on Aging.

The Amarillo campus also followed with a similar, but shorter program earlier this fall. During the eight-week Fit TECH program, teams of TTUHSC employees worked to achieve weekly goals of increased physical activity.



# Guess WHO

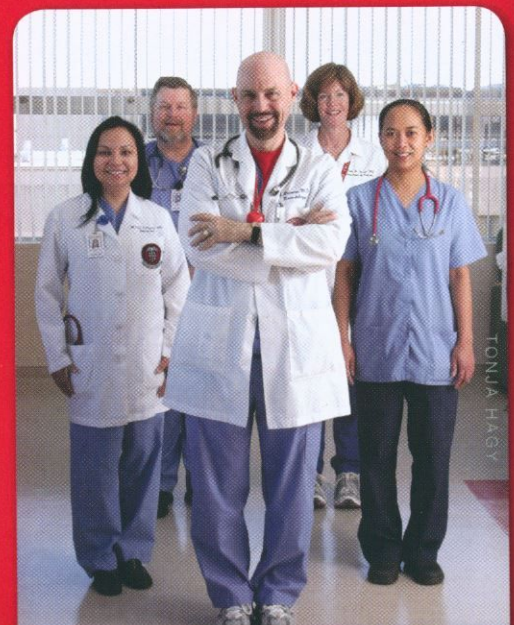
**ALL IN A DAY'S WORK** :: Antonio Jesurun, M.D., (pronounced heh-sue-rune), or "Dr. J" as he is more commonly known, said "including the loss of my hair" many things have changed since he began at TTUHSC 28 years ago. "We have learned and applied so much during the past 28 years that improve neonatal outcomes."

Jesurun, professor in the Department of Pediatrics, serves as medical director for Special Care Nurseries at Thomason Hospital in El Paso. He is one of four neonatologists in the Special Care Nurseries caring for about 30 babies everyday. Doctors in a teaching hospital strive not only to provide the best care for patients but also to train residents and medical students in providing excellent care.

Jesurun says he feels blessed to direct the care of so many future members of the community in addition to making an impact on infants in other communities through the Pediatric residency training program.

He is reminded often of the importance of his work, sometimes in the most unlikely places. He recalls being approached recently in a restaurant by a teenage girl who called him by name and thanked him for saving her life. The teen's mother recognized Dr. J and shared the story of her treatment 18 years before.

This success story, like so many others, is the result of quality care and a great patient relationship—something Jesurun says he takes great pride in everyday.



TONIA HAGY

**JUST  
the facts...**

**\$50 million**

The largest gift ever received in the Texas Tech University System

**270**

White coats presented this summer to incoming first-year medical and pharmacy students

**\$1,000**

Prize money won by Wyatt McMahon, Ph.D., (GSBS '07) post-baccalaureate research associate in Internal Medicine, on CBS "Who Wants to be a Millionaire"

**47,360**

Number of prescriptions filled at TTUHSC pharmacies during fiscal 2007

**15,000**

Journal titles in the TTUHSC libraries

**43**

Number of student representatives that compose the senate of TTUHSC Student Government Association.

**152,000**

Total square feet in the new Texas Tech Physicians Medical Pavilion

**2.6 million**

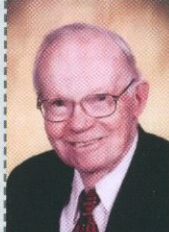
Population of the area in Texas served by TTUHSC



Marcie Johnston Beasley died Oct. 30, 2007, in Lubbock. She was executive director of the Chancellor's Council and Special Events, serving with Chancellors Kent Hance, David Smith and John Montford. Memorials may be made to the Marcie Cates Johnston Beasley Scholarship.



Parviz Malek-Ahmadi, M.D., died July 11, 2007, in Lubbock. He was a psychiatrist and professor in the School of Medicine's Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Memorials may be made to an education endowment established by the department.



L. O'Brien Thompson died July 26, 2007, in Amarillo. Thompson chaired a committee that helped landscape Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.



Winston Whitt, M.D., died Oct. 19, 2007, in Lubbock. He was a 1992 graduate of the School of Medicine and also completed a residency in internal medicine at TTUHSC. Whitt also was an attending physician at UMC Health System and had specialized in internal medicine at Lubbock Accident & Injury.



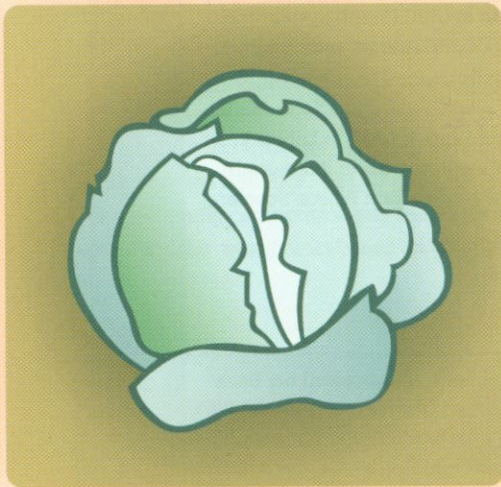
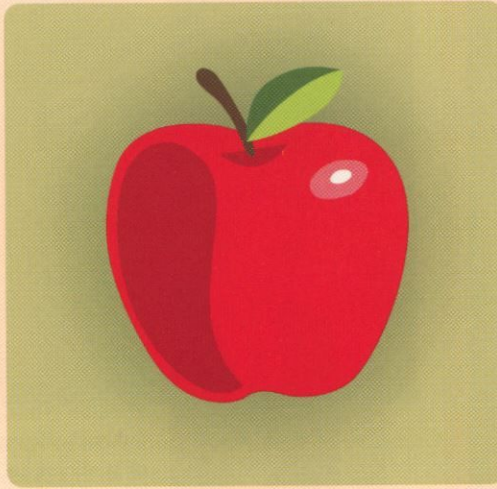
Nathan Wilson died Sept. 4, 2007, in Lubbock. He was a first-year medical student. Memorials may be made to the Nathan Tate Wilson Scholarship Fund.

Wendy Carr died June 16, 2007, in Lubbock. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications Disorders in 1999 from the School of Allied Health Sciences. Carr worked with patients at UMC Health System's Southwest Cancer and Research Center.

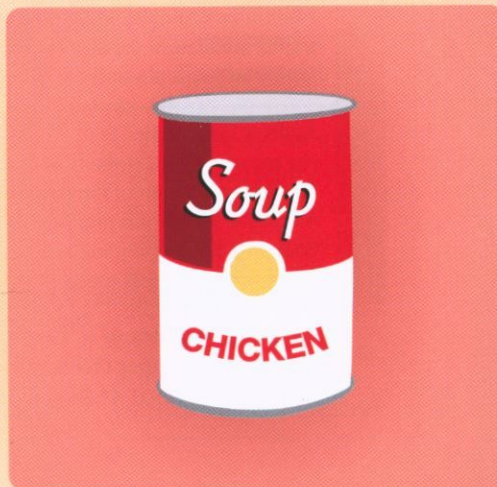
Paul Hulen Crumpler, M.D., died Sept. 24, 2007, in Beaumont. He was a 1982 graduate of the School of Medicine. Crumpler had been the family medicine physician at Gulf Coast Health Center in Beaumont.

Andrew Homan died Sept. 12, 2007, in Center City, Minn. He was the son of Richard Homan, M.D., former dean for the School of Medicine and chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine. Memorials may be made to the Richard V. Homan, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Family Medicine.

*Gifts in memory of or in honor of are routed to the desired location of the donor through the TTUHSC Office of Institutional Advancement, 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Stop 6238, Lubbock, Texas 79430.*



*Cures from  
the kitchen*





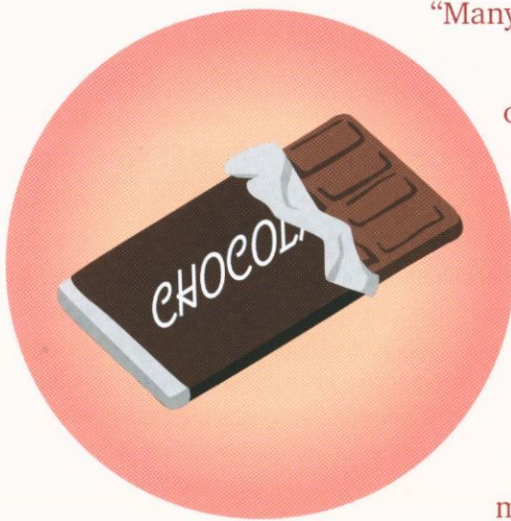
BY DANETTE BAKER

*Seems we have more to thank Benjamin Franklin for than just electricity. Franklin also coined the familiar phrase “An apple a day keeps the doctor away.”*

There are a thousand and one such promising medical cures—classified as home remedies—that use spices, vegetables, fruits or other items commonly found in the kitchen. Do a quick Google search and you are on your way to treating just about any ailment. We’ve given you a sampling on the following page.

But remember if something seems too good to be true,

it probably is. While many of these home remedies do provide some medical benefits, this type of medicine should be practiced with caution, says Ron Cook, D.O., M.B.A., associate professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Family and Community Medicine.



“Many of our current therapies are based on old home remedies, but a person must be careful in using the old cures as medical treatments because they may interact with other medications, possibly causing significant adverse reactions that may even require hospitalization,” he said. “Be leery of any remedy that claims to cure all ailments, diseases or conditions. There is no panacea in life that fixes everything.”



### *Physician repellent*

The healthful virtues of apples were being promoted long before Benjamin Franklin published the apple-a-day saying in his Poor Richard's Almanac. During the Greek and Roman times, educators at the Medical School of Salerno (Italy) taught that apples could help with digestive disorders as well as illnesses in the lungs and nervous system.

In recent years, research has supported some of these applications. Scientists have discovered apples contain key ingredients such as antioxidants, flavonoids and phytochemicals that may help prevent heart disease and cancer—two of the leading causes of death among Americans. Additionally, apples can help prevent diabetes and various digestive disorders.

One word of caution: apple peels, which contain the highest concentration of the beneficial ingredients, can be contaminated with chemical pesticides and herbicides, so a good scrubbing is crucial before consuming.



### *Relief from the garden*

Your parents may have said teasingly that they found you under a cabbage leaf, but seasoned lactation consultants credit the green garden vegetable for bringing more than a bundle of joy. For years, they have prescribed cabbage leaves as a tried-and-true way to relieve breast engorgement for nursing mothers.

Scientific evidence, while sparse, has confirmed their theory. Cabbage contains an amino acid that acts as an antibiotic and anti-irritant. This draws extra blood to the area, which in turn dilates the capillaries, relieving the inflammation and allowing the milk to flow more freely.



### *Just a spoonful of sugar is enough*

That infamous nanny Mary Poppins suggested sugar as a chaser for medicine, but turpentine shouldn't be part of the solution. Three drops of turpentine in a teaspoon of sugar, once prescribed as a cure for belly pain, will only leave you with the notion that it's better to have the belly ache. Turpentine, a hydrocarbon, is a toxin and should never be ingested.



### *Pass the parsley*

Once used ceremoniously in Greek and Roman cultures—on corpses as well as a crown for victorious athletes—the Western world is more familiar with parsley as a food garnish. Undoubtedly, you've politely pushed aside the green sprig in favor of the entrée, but you might want to think twice about discarding it altogether. The amount of chlorophyll in parsley is said to neutralize odors, thus making it a natural after-dinner mint. The herb is also known to help reduce bruising and to decrease inflammation and pain when applied topically.



### *How sweet it is*

Whoever said you can't have your cake and eat it too didn't make theirs out of chocolate. After all, chocolate creates not only a sense of emotional well-being, but one can actually gain physical benefits from eating it.

Researchers have long been in agreement that chocolate—specifically the dark kind—has the potential to prevent aging, heart disease and certain cancers. Cocoa beans—the source for chocolate—contain chemicals called flavonoids, also found in fruits and vegetables, tea and red wine. The darker the chocolate, the stronger amounts of flavonoids, which research has shown increase levels of HDL, the good cholesterol, and decrease LDL, the bad cholesterol. They also act as antioxidants, which are believed to protect cells from free-radicals that can damage cells and tissue. An added bonus, chocolate boosts serotonin and endorphin levels in the brain, which may result in improved moods.

However, the health benefits of chocolate are not a license for over-indulgence. Chocolate is a high-calorie food, so about 30 calories per day of dark chocolate—that's roughly the number of calories in one Hershey's Kiss—is enough to reap the benefits



### *Beef ... it's not what cures a black eye*


Best just keep that piece of beef on your dinner plate. The key to treating a black eye is to apply a cold compress, which constricts blood vessels, decreases inflammation and numbs the pain. While raw meat, refrigerated or kept in the freezer, can provide the coldness, it also can contain bacteria, which could potentially infect open skin injuries or mucus membranes. Instead, just use an ice pack: frozen peas or other vegetables work great.



### *MMMMmmm good, and good for you?*

During the 10th century, your physician might have actually written you a prescription for chicken soup if you had a cold. However, the consensus from modern science is that there is no consensus when it comes to this comfort food's ability to cure a cold.

Researchers studied several recipes for homemade chicken soups—the kind made with fresh vegetables, not from the can—and discovered these soups contain anti-inflammatory properties that inhibit the movement of neutrophils, white blood cells that fight the bacterial or viral infection which also are responsible for the excess mucus that accumulates in your lungs and nasal passages causing the coughs and congestion symptoms of a cold.

At the very least, scientists can agree that the warmth of the dish serves as a natural decongestant by opening the sinuses and nasal cavities, thus alleviating the aggravating symptoms. There also is some validity to the idea that "comfort foods," such as chicken soup, bring restoration to those convalescing. 



TONJA HAGY

## Good things come in small packages

**W**ITH EVERY PAYCHECK, Ron Salars makes a contribution to the Corinne Payne Wright Endowed Chair in Alzheimer's Disease, optimistic that someday it will help add up to a medical breakthrough.

He understands firsthand the struggles faced by those with neurological diseases—his daughter has Down syndrome. “Scientists are just a matter of dollars away from finding critical information about Alzheimer’s,” he says. “What they learn from that research can make an impact on other neurological diseases as well. So, if it takes \$1,000 to get there, does it matter that one person gave \$1,000 or that a thousand gave \$1?”

Salars, a mechanic for ASCO Equipment Co. in Odessa, made his first contribution to the endowment in September 2005—a memorial to Mrs. Wright who battled Alzheimer’s—and pledged to do so as long as he works for ASCO.

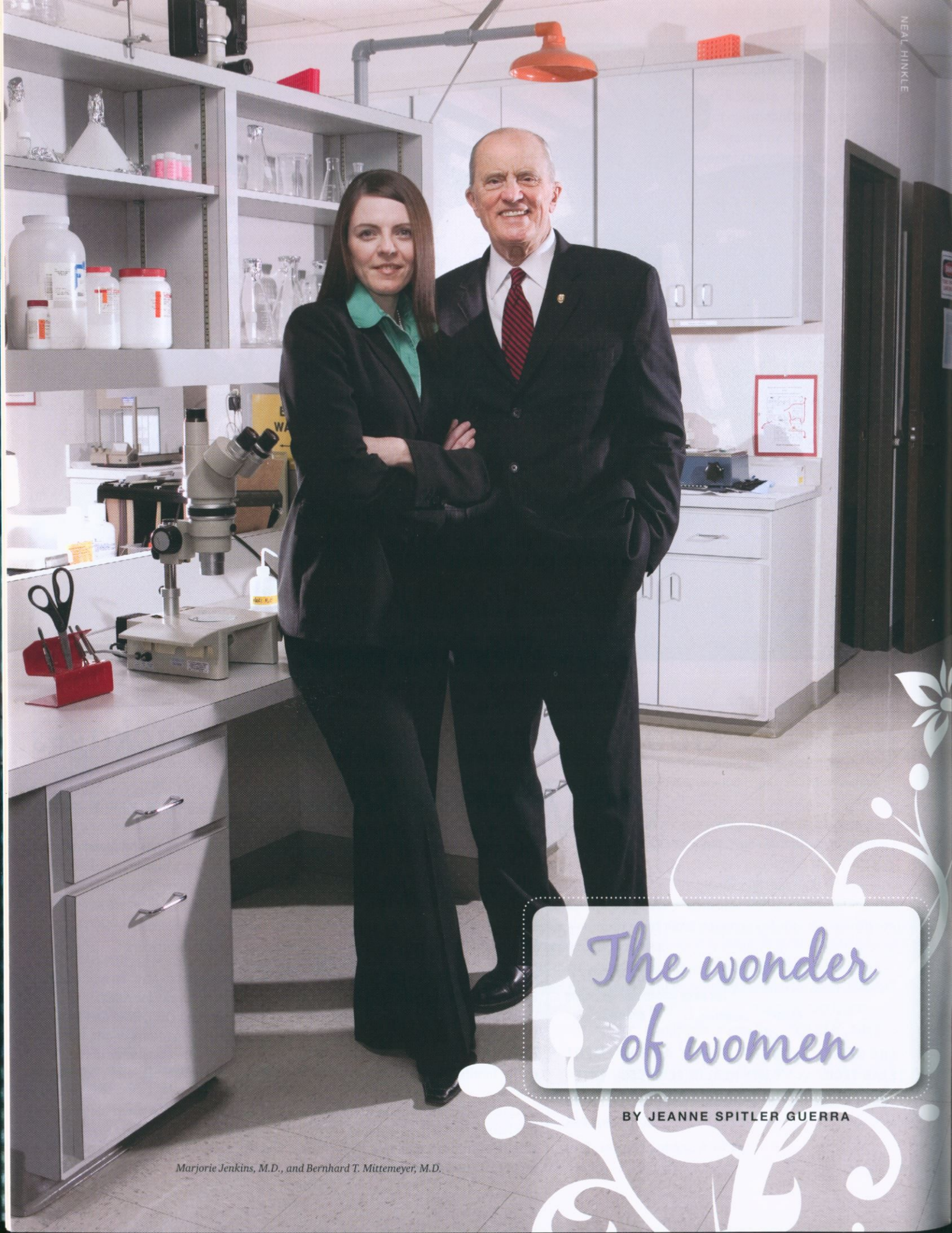
Paula Wright Key along with her father and two brothers (Bill, Brax and Steve Wright) established the endowment in August 2005. “Upon Mom’s death, many of our employees made donations. While they all were super meaningful for the entire family, Ron’s gift embodies all that we stand for as a family and a company,” she says.

“(Making a contribution to science) is something I’ve thought about for years, I just hadn’t researched it enough to find the right opportunity,” Salars says. “The Wright’s gift presented that opportunity, and Texas Tech has the history of being a great institution to support.”

### *Inspired?*

*For more information regarding financial support for TTUHSC, please contact:*

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*The wonder  
of women*

BY JEANNE SPITLER GUERRA

*Marjorie Jenkins, M.D., and Bernhard T. Mitemeyer, M.D.*

**WHAT'S GOOD  
HEALTH CARE  
FOR THE GOOSE  
IS NOT ALWAYS GOOD  
HEALTH CARE FOR THE  
GANDER. AS A RESULT OF  
THAT FAIRLY RECENT  
REVELATION, GENDER-BASED  
MEDICINE IS A HOT TOPIC  
ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**

During the last decade, dozens of women's health research institutes, centers and clinics have been established from coast to coast. At Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, women's health environments have been created with university funding, and recent activities surrounding gender-based medicine are making local and national headlines.

The TTUHSC Women's Health and Research Institute, which began in 2000, is now the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, headquartered in Amarillo with divisions in Lubbock, El Paso and the Permian Basin.

Also in Amarillo, within the School of Medicine, the Center for Women's Health and Gender-Based Medicine opened this fall. The center represents a novel approach to state-of-the-art evaluation of wellness and disease and will partner with other women's health endeavors such as the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health. At every TTUHSC campus, gender-based medicine is weaving its way into education, community outreach, patient care and research.

October Breast Cancer Awareness events and lecture series for women were supported in El Paso, Lubbock and the Permian Basin. A well-attended National Women's Health Week lecture series occurs each May in Lubbock, and *Hablando de la Salud de Mujer*, a symposium for Hispanic women, is in its third year in Amarillo.

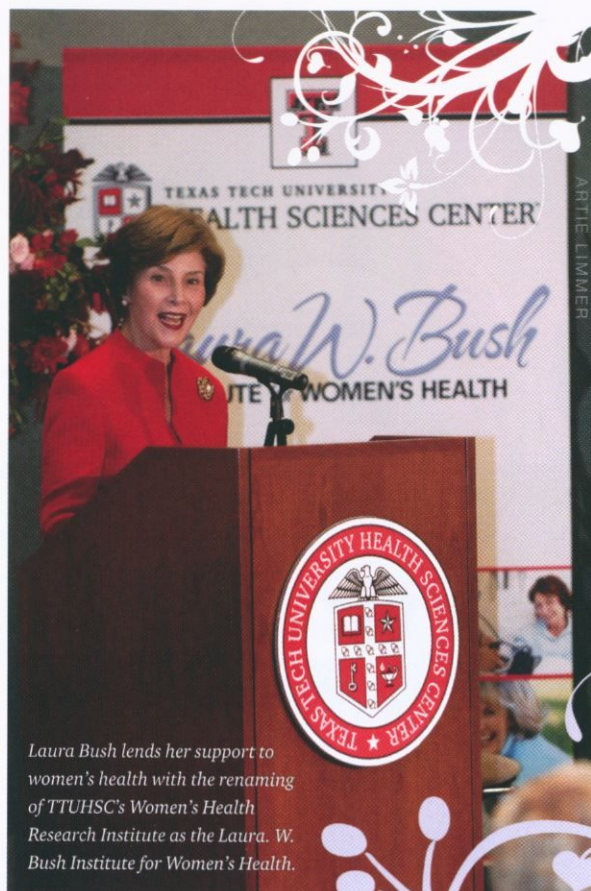
Why the interest? Why is it important, this difference between diagnosis and treatment?

An increasing amount of research in gender-specific aspects of medical diseases during the past decade has provided recognition that certain diseases may present differently in women than in men and may require special approaches to diagnosis and treatment. Cholesterol charts, for example, now list different optimal levels for men than for women. Women affected with dementia seem to experience more cognitive impairment than men. Heart attacks present differently in men and women. Males are more likely to die from their cancer than women, but women are more likely to have thyroid cancer that is fatal.

These facts have surfaced in part because of a 1994 National Institutes of Health mandate requiring researchers to include women and minorities in their studies. This mandate has had a profound effect on gender-based discoveries and theories. In addition, the effects on the differences in minority populations are just now being brought to the forefront due to a revision in the mandate in 2000 requiring reporting of gender and minority statistical subset analyses in Phase III of clinical trials.

Issues such as breast cancer, osteoporosis and the medical aspects of pregnancy are still crucial gaps in knowledge about women's health—particularly striking for those women with the highest risk factors for poor health, which include minorities, the elderly and those living in poverty. Studies of cancer, stroke and heart disease among women also are being funded across the country.

What are some of the other recently discovered differences?



*Laura Bush lends her support to women's health with the renaming of TTUHSC's Women's Health Research Institute as the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health.*

According to the Society for Women's Health Research website:

- Autoimmunity plays a role in more than 80 different diseases. Women are 2.7 times more likely than men to acquire an autoimmune disease.
- Systemic lupus erythematosus (lupus) affects nine times as many women as men.
- Twice as many women as men are afflicted with multiple sclerosis.
- Men who have been treated for depression are more likely than women to report problems at work or to be unemployed.
- Women are at higher risk for developing Alzheimer's disease than men, however men with Alzheimer's have a higher risk of mortality than women with the disease.



*Hablando de la Salud de Mujer in Amarillo is one of several outreach events focusing on women's health.*

TTUHSC supports ongoing research concerning osteoporosis, ovarian cancer, menopause, gestational diabetes, breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, Alzheimer's disease, teen pregnancy and depression.

"Research has now dictated that physicians should no longer look at males and females the same in preventive care and in treatment and

cures," said Marjorie Jenkins, M.D., executive director of the TTUHSC Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health and director of the Center for Women's Health and Gender-Based Medicine. "New discoveries are being made all the time about the best practices for one gender versus best practices for the other. There is so much new knowledge that is helping us, yet there is so much untapped information that we need to continue our research to advance our detection and treatment methods."

An additional dilemma is gender-labeling of diseases. Jenkins said, "Unfortunately, many diseases have been labeled as gender diseases. Osteoporosis is one that is normally associated with women. But I also see male hip-fracture patients. Nationally, male hip-


fracture patients are more likely to die after one year than their female counterparts. Yet we don't see advertisements advocating osteoporosis screenings for men as we do for women. We need to look at why and do something positive about it."

Menopause, although not a disease, is now recognized by some as having a counterpart in men. Andropause is identified by mid-life symptoms of what some label the "male climacteric" including decrease in libido, lack of energy, decrease in strength and endurance, lost height, decrease in enjoyment of life, unexplained irritability, erectile dysfunction, less strength to play sports, falling asleep after dinner, and deterioration of work performance.

Bernhard T. Mittermeyer, M.D., chairman of the School of Medicine's Department of Urology, has published articles on the subject. He said, "Andropause is referred to as a silent epidemic because it often goes undetected and, therefore, untreated. The condition affects an estimated 15 to 20 million men in the United States and occurs because of insufficient testosterone secretion, which lowers the hormone level in the body.

"For many, these symptoms will appear gradually over a period of 10 to 20 years and can plague men for 10 to 20 years. However, there is treatment for the symptoms of andropause. Just like women use hormone replacement to control the effects of menopause, men can use testosterone replacement therapy to control the effects of andropause, if appropriate."

To better study these similarities and discrepancies in all areas of gender-based health care, women's health offices have been created at the NIH, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Several universities and health sciences centers around the country, including TTUHSC, have initiated women's health research centers as a means to address these issues and to learn more about the differences.

"By pooling resources and expertise from the many organizations and the multiple campuses within Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (Lubbock, Amarillo, El Paso and the Permian Basin), we are paving the way to national prominence and excellence in research, teaching and clinical services for women's health," Jenkins said. 

Visit [www.ttuhsu.edu/laurawbushinstitute](http://www.ttuhsu.edu/laurawbushinstitute) for more information

## FIRST LADY ENDORSES TTUHSC WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE

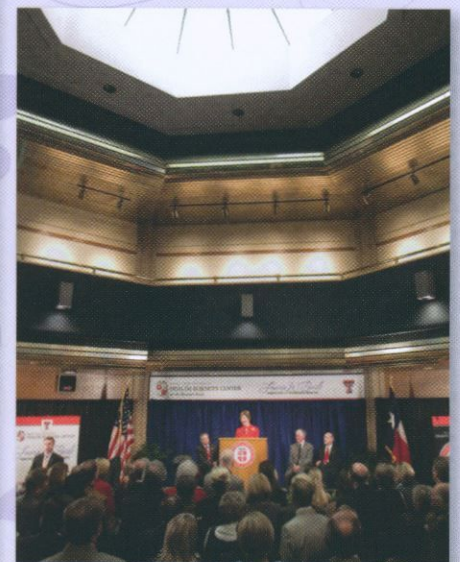
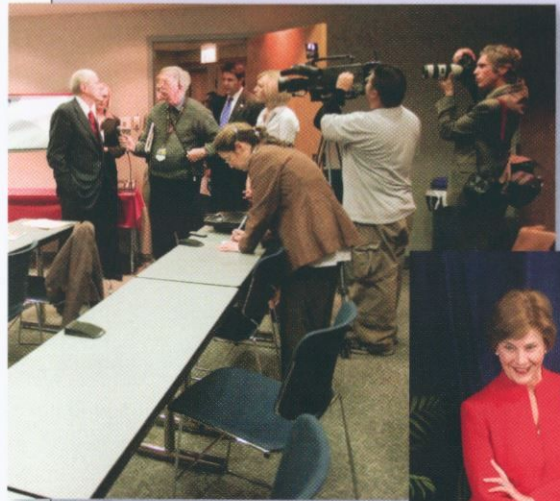
Laura Bush visited the Amarillo and Odessa campuses in early November for the official naming of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, formerly the Women's Health and Research Institute.

In Amarillo, Mrs. Bush attended a roundtable discussion about women's health with TTUHSC administrators, faculty and medical students, and then gave remarks at a luncheon for approximately 150 citizens at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. She was welcomed by Texas Tech System Chancellor Kent Hance, Amarillo Mayor Debra McCartt and TTUHSC School of Medicine Dean Steven Berk, M.D.

In Odessa, Mrs. Bush greeted approximately 200 guests at a reception on the TTUHSC campus. At this gathering, John Jennings, M.D., regional dean, announced that a center within the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health in the Permian Basin would be named in honor of Jenna Welch, Mrs. Bush's mother and a long-time Midland resident. *See story on Page 27*

Mrs. Bush talked about her own commitment to women's health issues and said she was honored to be associated with TTUHSC and its work. "...Texas Tech's Women's Health Institute is committed to outstanding education and world-class research," she said. "I'm honored that you're naming the new center in Midland after someone who's certainly taken care of me and educated me my whole life—my mother. Mother and I can't imagine anything better than being associated with the good health of women, especially West Texas women."

*Laura W. Bush*  
INSTITUTE for WOMEN'S HEALTH



PHOTOS BY TONJA HAGY, NEAL HINKLE AND ARTIE LIMMER



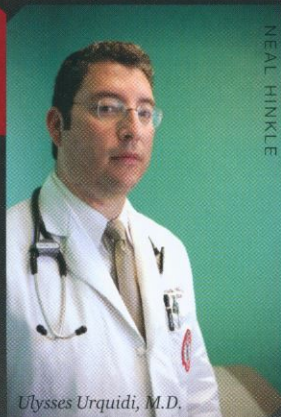




El Paso County. Most of them lack basic services such as sewage, water, electricity and paved roads—all of which make access to health care difficult.

To Ulysses Urquidi, M.D., M.S., (SOM '99) driving the asphalt streets is reminiscent of his childhood in the Segundo Barrio, an underserved neighborhood in the southern part of El Paso.

“The population in the colonias has a tremendous lack of access to medical care, insurability, transportation, finances and services,” said Urquidi, a life-long El Paso resident. He is assistant professor for the School of Medicine’s Department of Family and Community Medi-



Ulysses Urquidi, M.D.

cine and medical director of the Fabens Community Partnership Clinic, which serves a rural area just outside of El Paso. “Simply getting to the doctor or finding transportation to obtain medications are common challenges.”

Although the Health Sciences Center has a history with border health spanning 34 years and the community clinics have been in operation for 17 years, Urquidi says unique health problems along the border are just beginning to be revealed. Exposure to the region and the community clinics will provide tremendous opportunity to enhance leadership skills and provide new perspectives to medical students and residents.

“TTUHSC has a general area of expertise in treating populations that have limited access to care whether it’s in the colonias or the Panhandle,” said El

Paso native J. Manuel de la Rosa, M.D., MSc, (SOM '84) founding dean of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso.

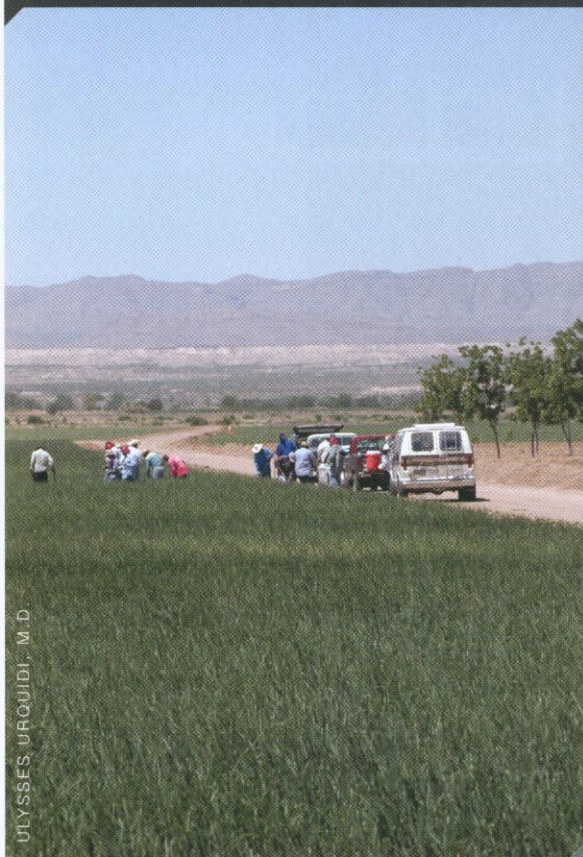
Ranked the third poorest county in the United States, El Paso has more than 30 percent of its population lacking health insurance. In addition, de la Rosa says crossing the border is simple. “People don’t respect the border, and as physicians this often makes it very difficult to treat patients. Drug-resistant tuberculosis and a high incidence of Hepatitis C and A are not uncommon.”

Legal and health system challenges also are difficult to tackle. Families may live and attend school in the United States, but often make a five-mile trip to Mexico on the weekend to visit extended family. Those trips potentially expose them to diseases normal-

ly monitored by the state health department on the Texas side of the border. There also is potential for a patient to carry diseases into Mexico that are not treated as easily there as in the United States.

Thanks to the 80th Texas Legislature, the Health Sciences Center now has the funding to move forward with creating the first four year medical school on an international border.

Establishment of the four-year medical school also will bring more medical students, research capabilities and expanded resources to El Paso and the populations on both sides of the border. “The impact this will have on the future health of border residents here and beyond is immeasurable and everlasting,” said Texas Tech System Chancellor Kent Hance. **P**



ULYSSES URQUIDI, M.D.

# Discoveries

RESEARCH  
& SCHOLARLY  
ACTIVITY

## INVESTIGATIONS

Obesity, vaccines, kidneys, pronunciation and preemies

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Luis Reuss, Ph.D., studies a cell protein essential in development and function of major body organs

## PRACTICE AND PUBLISH

New program assists clinical faculty in conducting research

### NEW ATTITUDES ABOUT FOOD, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

SCHOOL OF NURSING

**H**ow do you get children to forego fast food and screen time for fruits, veggies and physical activity? Du Feng, Ph.D., principal investigator, is searching for such answers. In the first half of a three-year study funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Feng and co-investigators from the School of Nursing and Texas Tech University worked with elementary schools in Lubbock and El Paso. Nutrition education and individualized physical activity has been implemented as well as team-sponsored family fun nights for the students. Their parents have been given “homework” to emphasize the importance of food choices, portion sizes and physical activity. For overweight students, or those at risk of becoming overweight, the research team makes home visits in order to provide tailored intervention for these families.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, childhood obesity is the most common chronic disease, affecting about 30 percent of those in elementary school. Children in minority and lower socioeconomic families are at greatest risk.

“Adolescents who are overweight have about a 70 percent chance of remaining overweight or of becoming obese as adults,” Feng says. “It makes sense to intervene at an earlier age (such as kindergarten through second grade in our study) so that children can establish healthy lifestyle habits that they will most likely carry over into adulthood.”

This fall, the research team introduced the second phase of the project—teaching children to garden—and will continue to monitor a self-check list to determine if the families are stocking their pantries with healthier food choices.

Feng says the research already has shown promising results. “Kids love learning about new foods and are already sending messages to their parents and younger siblings about what it means to be healthy,” she says. ●

*Du Feng, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing and in Texas Tech University's College of Human Sciences. School of Nursing Research and Practice Associate Dean Chris Esperat, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, is the project director. Co-investigators are Debra Reed, Ph.D., RD; Mallory Boylan, Ph.D.; Ming Chyu, Ph.D.; Joaquin Borrego, Ph.D.; and Leslie Thompson, Ph.D., all in the College of Human Sciences.*



DU FENG, PH.D.

TONJA HAGY

### KIDNEY DISEASE RESEARCH YIELDING PROMISE

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**A**utosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease, or ADPKD, is a hereditary kidney disease and the third leading cause of chronic adult kidney failure requiring dialysis. Elsa Bello-Reuss, M.D., is leading research to prevent kidney damage from this disease.

In ADPKD, cysts are produced in the kidney, causing pain, bleeding and eventual loss of kidney function. The cysts produce interleukin-8 (IL-8), a substance that stimu-

lates blood vessel growth and is essential for cyst development. Bello-Reuss' research is looking for ways to slow down the production of IL-8, thereby limiting the growth of the cysts in the kidney. This treatment is expected to lessen kidney pain and bleeding caused by the cysts and allow the kidney to continue functioning without dialysis. ●

*Elsa Bello-Reuss, M.D., is a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. She joined the TTUHSC faculty in April; her research is funded by the National Institutes of Health.*



ELSA BELLO-REUSS, M.D.

NEAL HINKLE

**INFECTION INTERVENTION**

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

**T**he World Health Organization estimates 200 million people are infected with schistosomiasis, a parasitic disease contracted when humans come into contact with freshwater lakes or rivers containing snails infected with schistosome larvae.

Schistosome larvae first attach themselves to snails until they reach maturity, then move on to larger hosts such as humans. Afzal Siddiqui, Ph.D., collaborating with Ronald Kennedy, Ph.D., has identified a novel protein in schistosomes that has been demonstrated to stimulate an immune response in mammals. Using this research, Siddiqui developed a vaccine based on the protein's subunit, designated Sm-p80, that could possibly prevent thousands of deaths each year caused by schistosomiasis.

"Presently, there is no vaccine for controlling this disease," he said. "Therefore, a vaccine would make a great impact on the existing means of disease control, especially if it provides an effective, long-term immunity against the infection."

With a \$1.6 million NIH grant received in October, the researchers began testing in non-human primates to determine the preventative and therapeutic effectiveness of the vaccine. Approximately 600 million people in countries with poor sanitation and infected water are at risk of contracting the disease. •

*Afzal A. Siddiqui, Ph.D., is an associate professor of microbiology and immunology in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He has received prior funding from the Thrasher Research Fund, a private foundation whose purpose is to impact childhood diseases worldwide. Ronald Kennedy, Ph.D., is a professor of microbiology and immunology and department chair.*



AFZAL A. SIDDIQUI, PH.D. AND RONALD KENNEDY, PH.D.

NEAL HINKLE

## BREAKING LANGUAGE BARRIERS

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

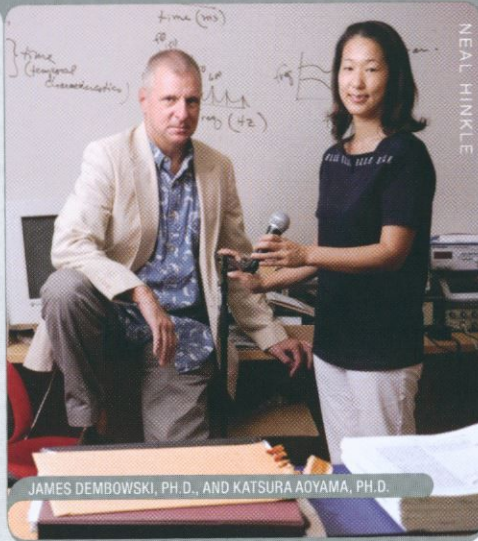
**R**esearchers have long known communication is one of the key components of interaction between people in business and society settings, and with tools such as the Internet continuing to shrink a global community that speaks more than 6,000 languages, it will soon be pivotal to understand the nature of language.

James Dembowski, Ph.D., and Katsura Aoyama, Ph.D., are involved in research that is taking them in that direction. They received a seed grant from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and launched their research by closely examining the differences between certain sounds in Japanese and English.

Dembowski and Aoyama, who is a native Japanese speaker, have been using images and sound recordings collected from an X-ray micro-beam machine at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. To date, the team's research has focused primarily on the sounds associated with the letters G and K. Dembowski noticed that Japanese speakers can pronounce the isolated sounds in much the same way as English speakers. However, because of the way Japanese speakers appear to place their tongues against the roof of their mouths, there is a considerable difference in the way Japanese speakers use the sounds in regular connected speech.

Dembowski and Aoyama plan to take a closer look at other Japanese consonants and learn more about various cross-linguistic differences. ●

*James Dembowski, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, and Katsura Aoyama, Ph.D., are assistant professors in the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences.*



JAMES DEMBOWSKI, PH.D., AND KATSURA AOYAMA, PH.D.

## PREVENTION FOR PREEMIES

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

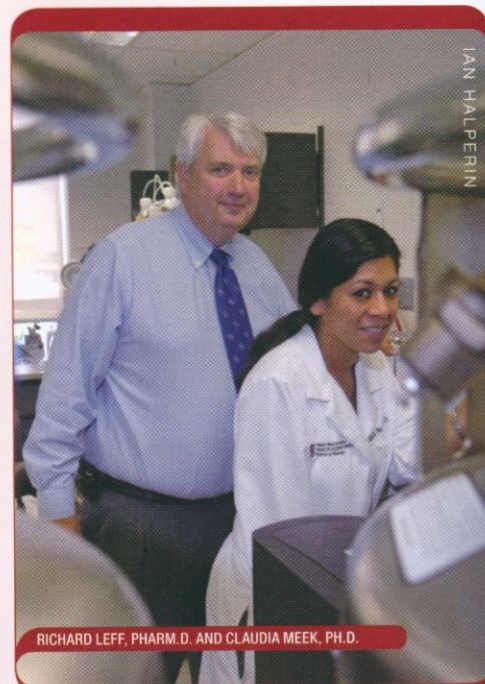
**I**n an average week in Texas, 1,002 babies are born preterm, which can cause illness and disability. Premature birth also can lead to developmental delays, including vision and hearing impairments.

Richard Leff, Pharm.D., and Claudia Meek, Ph.D., at the Pediatric Pharmacology Research and Development Center, a School of Pharmacy Center for Research Excellence located at Children's Medical Center in Dallas, have collaborated with the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development-funded Pediatric Pharmacology Research Units and Neonatal Research Network to examine the use of inositol to prevent blindness often caused by the aggressive treatment needed to save the lives of preterm infants. Inositol, a six-carbon sugar alcohol, is an essential nutrient required by human cells for growth and survival. Because preterm infants are born with lower than normal levels of inositol, giving the nutrient intravenously after birth could make a significant difference in preventing retinopathy of prematurity.

Using equipment designed to analyze inositol from very small blood samples obtained

from premature babies, Leff and his team are working with doctors to determine the optimal effective dose of inositol for infants. ●

*Richard Leff, Pharm.D., is regional dean for the School of Pharmacy in Dallas. Claudia Meek, Ph.D., is a research assistant professor for the School of Pharmacy in Dallas.*



RICHARD LEFF, PHARM.D. AND CLAUDIA MEEK, PH.D.

## PULL UP A CHAIR

GET TO KNOW THE RESEARCH FACULTY OF TTUHSC

### LUIS REUSS, M.D.

JOINED TTUHSC IN APRIL AS CHAIR AND PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF CELL PHYSIOLOGY AND MOLECULAR BIOPHYSICS

TRADING HURRICANES AND HUMIDITY FOR SANDSTORMS AND THE SOUTH PLAINS

TTUHSC's offer was an opportunity for me to return to the educational process that I truly missed as I pursued research full-time.

able to have cells in culture produce large amounts of these proteins that can then be purified and studied in isolation, establishing their structure, function and regulation. Mutations of these proteins cause diseases as varied as heart arrhythmias and congenital deafness. Acquired changes cause abnormal function of these channels in heart attacks and stroke. As we develop a good un-

beginning of my career. When I moved to Washington University in St. Louis, Carlton Hunt, M.D., the chairman of my department, thoroughly supported my research and teaching work and guided me in a very subtle manner.

#### WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

In several TTUHSC departments and at Texas Tech University, there are researchers

investigating aspects of membrane transport processes and signaling. With them, I plan to form an Institute for the Study of Membrane Proteins to support that research. This would be an organization without walls that could bring together existing and new research resources and investigators for a fruitful cooperative effort to study different aspects of membrane protein structure and function.

There are several researchers at both institutions who have NIH and other sources of extramural funding, including myself and Guillermo Altenberg, M.D., Ph.D., who joined the TTUHSC faculty as an associate professor in physiology. I have also recruited two young investigators, Pablo Artigas, Ph.D., and Jose Perez, Ph.D., who I expect will secure such funding in the near future.

TTUHSC is a young but wise institution that has been able to put together a successful operation in the clinical and educational realms. I hope to contribute to its further academic development by teaching the next generation of researchers and encouraging collaborative efforts. ■

*Previously, Reuss was an internal medicine professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, working full-time as a researcher studying the cell protein, connexin-43, which is essential in the development and function of the heart, kidney, brain and blood vessel cells. He also served as chair and professor at UTMB's Department of Physiology and Biophysics.*

To learn more about Reuss, visit [www.ttuhsu.edu/SOM/physiology/Reuss/Reuss.shtml](http://www.ttuhsu.edu/SOM/physiology/Reuss/Reuss.shtml)

INTERVIEW BY DANETTE BAKER

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LUIS REUSS, M.D.

TONJA HAGY

There is a great future for this institution because of its growth in the major aspects that make up a modern medical center: strong leadership, state support and a proactive clinical faculty. These are conditions that support growth of research and teaching, and I certainly want to be a part of all this as it develops.

#### THEORIES, INVESTIGATIONS, SOLUTIONS:

Currently, my work is focused on connexin-43, a protein that forms channels between neighboring cells in the heart, brain, kidney and other organs. These channels are essential, for example, for transmitting the electrical impulses that cause the heart to contract. My colleagues and I have been

derstanding of connexins, new treatments for these conditions can be developed.

#### PASSING THE TORCH:

I think of mentoring as both a sense of duty and a most rewarding experience for the mentor. Mentoring must be adapted to each individual, but in most instances involves providing support to find answers rather than providing the answers themselves. I was fortunate while at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to have Arthur Finn, M.D., and Daniel Tosteson, M.D., (who later became the dean of Harvard) as mentors. They are two very different people with remarkable personalities who helped me to grow scientifically at the

*Practice*  
and

P U B L I S H

*NEW PROGRAM ASSISTS CLINICAL  
FACULTY IN CONDUCTING RESEARCH*

BY DANETTE BAKER



For about two years, Bonna Benjamin, M.D., had noticed a marked increase in the number of babies born with gastroschisis. Nationwide, about one in 5,000 infants is born with the life-threatening birth defect in which the intestines develop outside the abdomen. Yet, Benjamin, a pediatric surgeon with Texas Tech Physicians of Amarillo, said she believed she was treating twice that many.



NEAL HINKLE

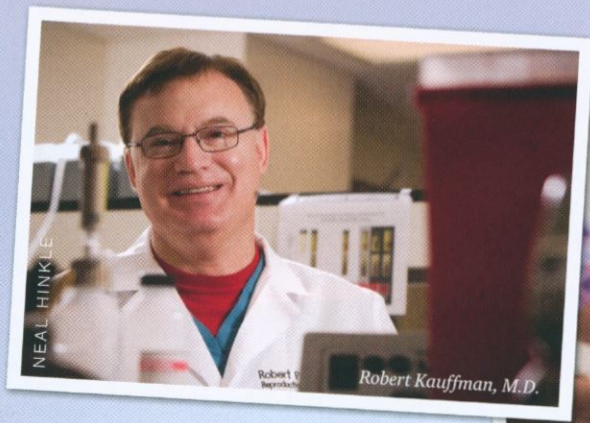
Curious to validate her observations, Benjamin turned to the Faculty Clinical Research Unit. The School of Medicine in Amarillo opened the unit in September 2006 to provide turnkey assistance for clinical faculty conducting basic science research.

"I was among the first to run through the door," said Benjamin, also a professor and interim regional chair for the Department of Pediatrics. "Although I have 30 years of clinical work, I don't have a lot of experience in research. For someone like me, the whole process seems so time-consuming and daunting."

Many academic clinicians struggle with research, because they were trained as doctors and not scientists, and conducting a research project takes a significant amount of time out of an already challenging workload of clinic appointments and teaching duties, says Tom Hale, Ph.D., director of the research unit.

Yet, an academic institution has a responsibility to advance knowledge through education and research. "The latter plays a significant role in faculty advancement and in the overall reputation of the institution," said School of Medicine Dean Steven Berk, M.D., who was the regional dean at Amarillo when he and Hale developed the research unit.

"There is an unspoken understanding in a university setting that either you publish or you perish," Hale said. "Our job is to ensure that our faculty succeeds."



Through the research unit staff, Benjamin connected with Texas Department of Health, which has a database on gastroschisis dating back to the late '90s. Her observations proved accurate; the incidence rate had doubled.

But why? That question led to Benjamin collaborating with the state agency on a project to study environmental and behavioral factors that might contribute to gastrochisis. Ultimately, she said, there could be a breakthrough to prevent the defect much like the discovery that led to folic acid's prevention of brain and spinal cord defects.

Benjamin's is one of many research projects that came through the unit in its first year—many of which were from faculty not previously conducting research, according to Melissa Lockman, MLS, assistant director. Working with a \$130,000 budget from the School of Medicine, the unit's four-member

staff has significantly impacted research activity for the school on the Amarillo campus. Currently, 52 projects are in various stages; five are completed and in the analysis and write-up phase, according to Lockman.

Regional Dean Richard M. Jordan, M.D., says the unit is an incredibly valuable resource for the campus. "Dr. Berk and I are exploring funding opportunities such as an endowment, to ensure sustainability."

The potential to implement similar programs on other campuses also exists, based on the program's success in Amarillo, says Berk. "One of the great things about this model is the opportunity for research to permeate from the faculty through the medical residents and involve medical students. Also, the abstracts and publications that come as a result of the research will signifi-

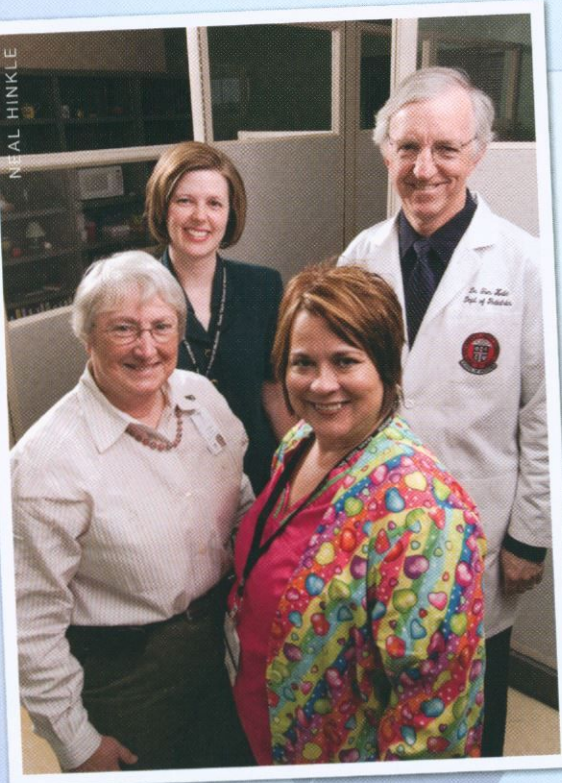
cantly enhance the school's reputation."

While research centers are common in medical schools, most are designed to support clinical trials, Hale said. "Few, if any, focus on basic research and helping faculty design a principal investigator initiated project and bring it to fruition."

Research can be the nemesis for clinical faculty who are responsible for educating the next generation of health care providers as well as providing patient care. "Getting this expertise has really helped all of us," said Robert Kauffman, M.D., associate professor and director of Reproductive Medicine and Infertility and published author on research involving insulin resistance in reproduction. Wanting to expand his current research on gestational diabetes, Kauffman turned to the research unit for assistance in recruiting subjects. He is investigating novel approaches for gestational diabetes screening and searching for potential markers other than glucose tolerance—the current gold standard—that increase a woman's risk for delivering a large baby.

"There is no way I could do this project without their assistance," he said. "While I consider myself fairly adept at grant writing, the (Institutional Review Board) process is extremely time consuming and can be very frustrating, especially for a new researcher.

"In my case, they (unit staff) were instrumental in getting my application through the Institutional Review Board and in helping write the patient permission forms as well as recruiting patients and the execution of the study protocol." ●



#### VITAL STATS:

*Faculty Clinical Research Unit*

**Opened:** Sept. 14, 2006

**Location:** SOM/SOAH building on TTUHSC Amarillo campus

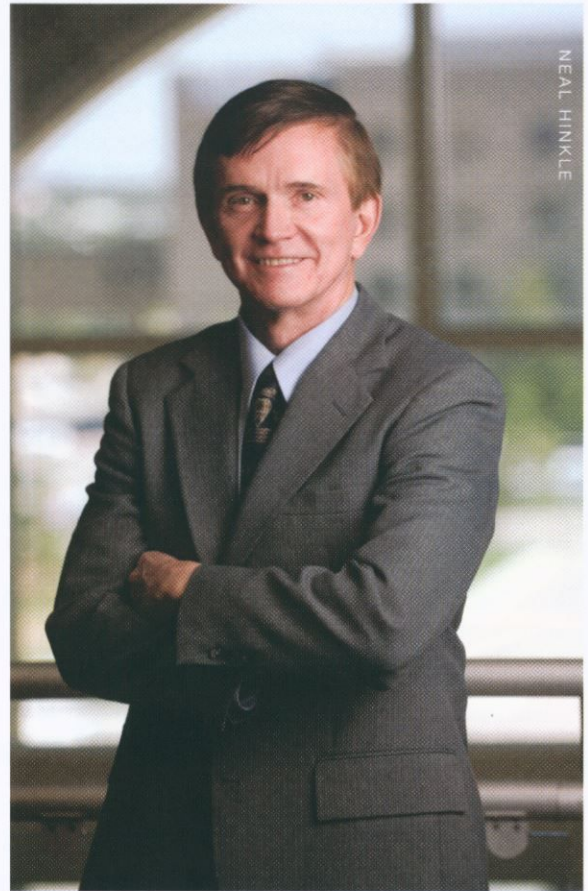
**Function:** Facilitates the research of Amarillo clinical faculty investigators

**Advisory boards:** Scientific Advisory Committee composed of experienced scientists/researchers from TTUHSC schools of Medicine, Allied Health and Pharmacy as well as Northwest Texas Hospital System and the Amarillo Veteran's Administration

**Staff:** back, Melissa Lockman, MLS, assistant director; Tom Hale, Ph.D., director; front, Anne Dennison, R.N., B.S.N., M.S., epidemiologist/statistician; Pam Farmer, R.N., nurse



**GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH:** *TTUHSC at Amarillo broke ground Aug. 23 for a new research center to serve the schools of Allied Health Sciences, Medicine and Pharmacy. The 48,000 square-foot building will allow for additional research initiatives including open and closed laboratories and shared lab support facilities. The research building, scheduled for completion in early 2009, is one of three upcoming projects for the campus, totaling \$33 million. The School of Pharmacy also will expand its facility to include two 120-seat classrooms, a 26-station instructional laboratory, a patient simulation training and assessment center, and administrative space. Additionally, the School of Medicine plans to add a fifth floor to the existing building for relocation of its Center for Family Medicine, currently located off campus.*



NEAL HINKLE

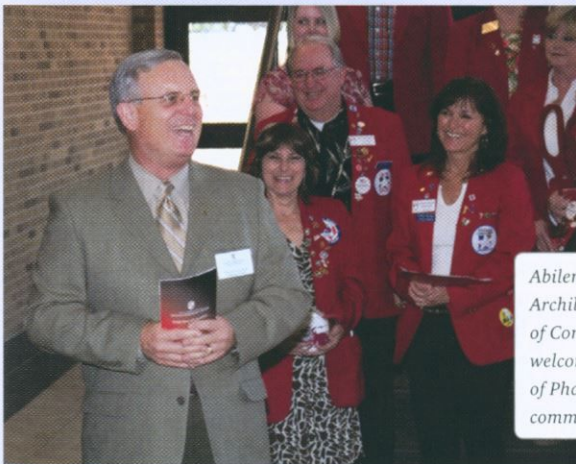
## NEW BEGINNINGS FOR ABILENE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ::

The Abilene community and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center made history Aug. 12 as officials marked the opening of the new School of Pharmacy in Abilene.

Forty students began classes there on Aug. 13. Abilene is the third regional campus for the School of Pharmacy. The others are at Lubbock and Dallas/Fort Worth. As in Amarillo, the Abilene school will offer all four years of the doctor of pharmacy program.

Texas Tech University System Board of Regents Chair F. Scott Dueser was a leader in the effort to bring the school to Abilene.

“The opening of the new branch of the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in Abilene reflects the continued expansion of Texas Tech into West Texas, which enhances local educational resources with its doctorate program,” said Dueser, who is president and chief executive of First Financial Bankshares in Abilene.



*Abilene Mayor Norm Archibald and Chamber of Commerce members welcome TTUHSC School of Pharmacy to their community Aug. 12.*

**JORDAN TO LEAD SOM** :: Richard M. Jordan, M.D., has been named regional dean of the School of Medicine at Amarillo. Jordan’s responsibilities include academic, research and clinical administration. He began Sept. 4.

School of Medicine Dean Steven Berk, M.D., said Jordan assumed responsibility at a strategic time as the number of students on the Amarillo campus will increase because of a shift of student placements across all TTUHSC campuses.

Jordan served as chief of medical services at James H. Quillen VA Medical Center as well as chief of the Division of Endocrinology at East Tennessee University in Johnson City, Tenn., before coming to TTUHSC. In addition, he was associate chairman for postgraduate education for the Department of Medicine and was the department’s residency program director.

“I have known Dr. Jordan for more than 20 years, and he is an outstanding clinician, teacher and administrator,” said Berk.

Jordan earned his medical degree from Indiana University and completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in endocrinology at the University of Oregon in Portland.



**DNA, 2007** :: Two works by Chinese artist Shan-Shan Sheng are the most recent additions to the Texas Tech System University Public Art Collection. The first piece, (*pictured immediately above*) fabricated in architectural art glass, creates a cohesive composition as it stretches up four floors as the building's north elevator lobby windows. The artist layered loosely-painted fields of color in blues and reds alongside a contrasting, hard-edged, ladder-like structure that recalls the DNA molecule and its protein rungs (C-G, A-T). This famed helical structure is repeated in Sheng's second work, the three-dimensional glass and steel suspension sculpture, which hangs above the patient reception lobbies. Both pieces of art were created and assembled in Germany and installed in the building in late summer.

Visit [www.fpc.ttu.edu/pub\\_files/UPAC07.pdf](http://www.fpc.ttu.edu/pub_files/UPAC07.pdf) for more information on the collection.

## NEW GRADUATE DEGREE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS ::

The School of Allied Health Sciences has added significant curriculum content to its physical therapy program with the addition of a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

"Physical therapists practice in a variety of clinical settings that require ever-expanding knowledge, skill, and levels of clinical responsibility," said Kerry K. Gilbert, P.T., Sc.D., (SOAHS '97, '04) program director. "This degree, which is the fourth doctoral program approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for the School of Allied Health Sciences, will advance the students' skills to meet current and future health care needs."



## ADVANCED TRAINING OFFERED WITH NEW NURSING DEGREE ::

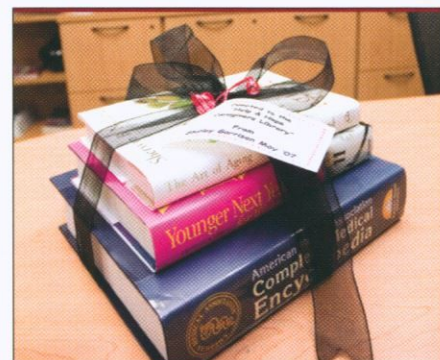
The School of Nursing's new Doctorate of Nursing Practice program brings educational opportunities to nurses in West Texas and beyond and will be vital to attracting much-needed nursing faculty.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the degree plan in late October, making it one of only four in the state and the only one in West Texas. There are more than 20 such doctoral programs in the nation.

"Not only will this degree plan be a major recruitment draw, but it positions the School of Nursing as a leader in addressing the nursing shortage," said SON Dean Alexia Green, R.N. Ph.D.

The concept of the degree is to give nurses the skills needed to meet the growing complexity of the health care system and to meet the demand for highly prepared faculty for schools of nursing, Green said.

The School of Nursing will admit 20 students this summer for the program's inaugural class.



## HELP FOR CAREGIVERS ::

Those caring for aging adults can find information on dementia and other health issues through the Help and Hope Caregivers Library, which opened this summer at the Garrison Institute on Aging. The library houses a variety of media resources addressing topics including those related to health, financial, social and legal issues.

"At some time in life, everyone will be a caregiver or need one," said Ann Laurence, M.S., senior director of education for the Garrison Institute on Aging. "The Help and Hope Caregiver Library is available in order to support these individuals."

The resources are accessible during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**DONORS KICK OFF CHANCELLOR'S ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP ::** Lynn Bickley, M.D., and Randolph Schiffer, M.D. have established a Chancellor's Endowed Scholarships for the School of Medicine.

"We are pleased to support academic excellence for students in the School of Medicine and look forward to seeing our school move to the next level of national prominence in medical education," said Bickley, associate dean for curriculum in the School of Medicine and professor of internal medicine and neuropsychiatry. Schiffer is chairman for the Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

A second Chancellor's Endowed Scholarship for the School of Medicine was established by the Don-Kay-Cash Foundation. The Cash family previously supported TTUHSC by establishing a chair in Alzheimer's disease research as well as making numerous other contributions to both the schools of Nursing and Medicine.

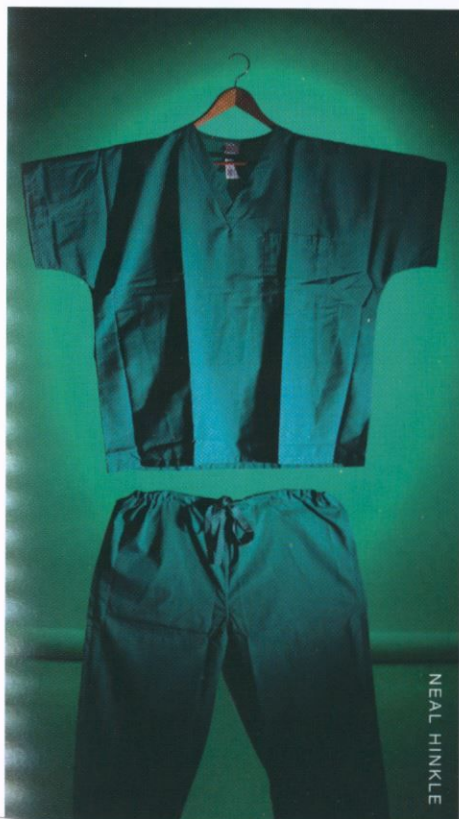
These scholarships will assist the School of Medicine in recruiting outstanding students based on academic achievement and leadership in school and community activities.



LEFT Don and Kay Cash; RIGHT Lynn Bickley, M.D. and Randolph Schiffer, M.D.

**SCRUB CAMP ANNUAL PARTY HAS MEDICAL STUDENTS SEEING GREEN ::** It's not easy being green. Not ecologically minded, but actually green. For first-year medical students, the color is a welcome sight—especially on a pair of scrubs.

"We picked the color green to represent the quest for the green velvet hood the students will receive once they earn the title of Doctor of Medicine," says Priscilla Carter-Snodgrass, M.D., (SOM '88). For several years, she and her husband, Brad Snodgrass, M.D., (SOM '88) have presented scrubs each year to incoming medical students at the school's Scrub Camp Party as a way to welcome future colleagues and prevent history from reoccurring.



NEAL HINKLE

Carter-Snodgrass said during their third year in medical school she and fellow classmates were accused of stealing scrubs. The incident prompted a vow, "Indignant, I remember thinking 'I will never allow a medical student to be accused of this again.'" I made a pledge to myself then to one day purchase a set of scrubs for each student entering medical school."

This year 139 students each received a pair of scrubs.

**VARMA HONORED WITH ENDOWED CHAIR APPOINTMENT ::**

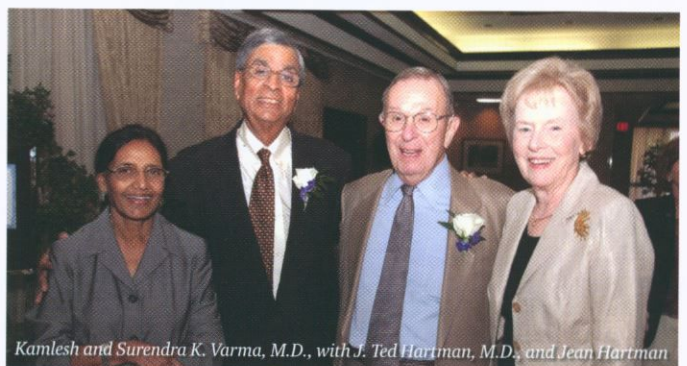
University Medical Center Health System has presented the newly named J. Ted Hartman, M.D., Endowed Chair in Medical Education to long-time School of Medicine faculty member Surendra K. Varma, M.D.

Varma, a University Distinguished Professor and vice chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, joined the School of Medicine faculty in 1978. He has been a member UMC's medical staff since the hospital's opening that same year.

At the presentation, Varma dedicated the endowed chair to his wife, Kamlesh Varma, saying, "Throughout our marriage of more than 40 years, she has been my biggest supporter and very appropriate critic. She has continued to raise the bar for me. It is for those sacrifices that I have dedicated this endowed chair to her."

UMC chose to honor Hartman for his dedication and service. He is a founding faculty member of the School of Medicine, serving in that position for 21 years before retiring in 1988 as dean. Hartman also was chairman for the Department of Orthopaedics.

The endowment, the first from UMC to be named after an individual, serves to promote excellence in clinical care of patients, clinical programs and practices, and graduate medical education at the School of Medicine.



Kamlesh and Surendra K. Varma, M.D., with J. Ted Hartman, M.D., and Jean Hartman



**MEDICAL SCHOOL NAMED IN HONOR OF DONOR** :: Thanks to a generous gift from Paul L. Foster, president and CEO of Western Refining Inc., the four-year medical school in El Paso was named the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine.

"Mr. Foster's gift to the El Paso School of Medicine is an outstanding example of the support this community has shown Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center," said TTUHSC President John C. Baldwin, M.D.

Foster's gift of \$50 million is the largest gift given to the Texas Tech University System. The funds will help finance faculty recruitment, salaries and state-of-the-art equipment for cutting-edge research.

The four-year medical school will create new opportunities vital for research and advancements in health care that will profoundly affect the region, state, nation and world.

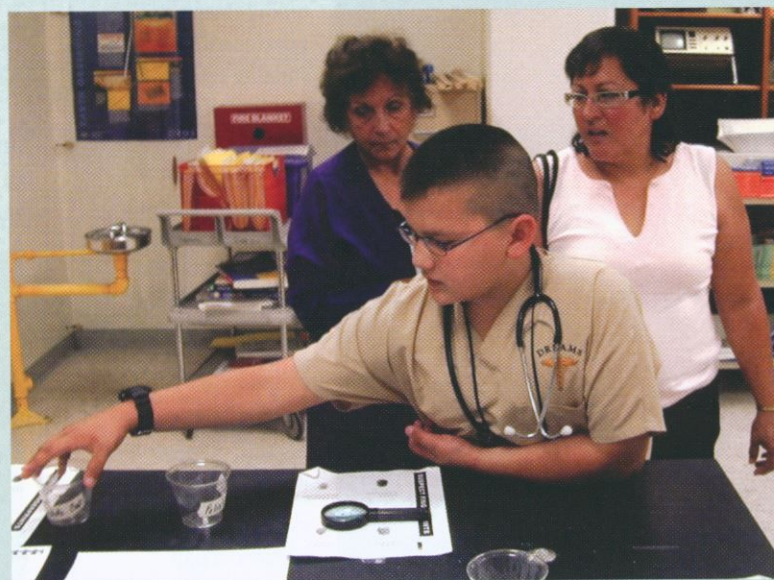
**MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE** :: Though Carlos Lugo has a few years before he is accepted into medical school, he already has an idea of the work and dedication needed to become a physician.

Lugo, 11, gave up a month of his summer vacation to attend school every day as one of 165 students enrolled in the DREAMS program—a partnership between Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's Hispanic Center of Excellence and the El Paso Independent School District. Developing Research and Early Aspiration for Medical Scholars, or DREAMS, is an education awareness outreach program for fifth and sixth graders in El Paso ISD's Gifted and Talented Education Department.

Students chosen for DREAMS are identified by their counselors as high achievers and are encouraged to continue to excel in academics, according to Joyce Palmer, associate director of the Hispanic Center of Excellence.

As part of the commencement activities, students showed their parents and family members what they had learned. There were posters on medical topics and essays about physician specialties and projects such as DNA spiral models made of candy.

This was the second year for DREAMS, and TTUHSC and El Paso ISD officials plan to continue to offer the program in the future. "Partnerships in education are profitable ways to encourage our youth to continue their education," said Palmer.





Laura Bush and her mother, Jenna Welch

## NEW HOME FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

:: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will enhance its primary health care services for women in the Permian Basin and surrounding region with the opening of the Jenna Welch Women's Center in Midland.

"The naming of the center honors a respected lady, a role model and the mother of the first lady of the United States," said John C. Jennings, M.D., regional dean for the School of Medicine. "It is symbolic of the very special relationship of mothers and daughters that is so important in the perpetuation of women's health and wellness."

The center, part of the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, will be located on the first floor of the former Allison Cancer Center, adjacent to Midland Memorial Hospital. The space will provide for expansion of the School of Medicine's obstetrics and gynecology program and state-of-the-art care in women's health.

## FAMILY MEDICINE ACCREDITED FOR GERIATRIC FELLOWSHIP

:: The Department of Family Medicine has received accreditation for a one-year clinical fellowship to offer graduate training in geriatric medicine.

Chau Le, M.D., program director, said training in geriatric medicine is important because it is a philosophy of care for the elderly instead of another subspecialty in health care. The fellowship helps physicians contribute to that philosophy and its application in health care.

Those completing the fellowship may sit for the Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ) in Geriatrics and will be prepared for either a clinical or academic practice-oriented career.

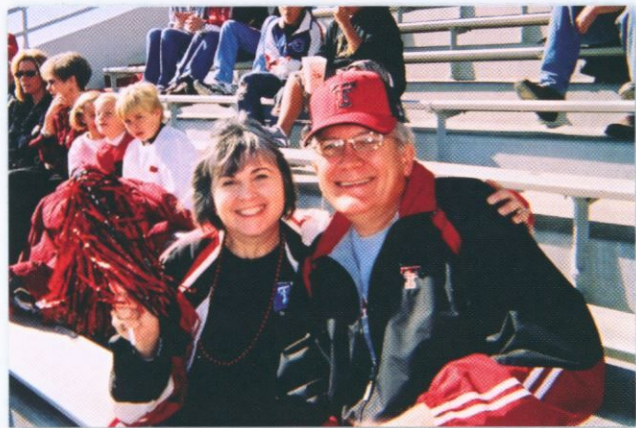


# REUNION WEEKEND

October 26 & 27, 2007



Suzanne Schutt and Robert Schutt, M.D., (SOM '77), Philip Gates, M.D., (SOM '77) and Michael Owen, M.D., (SOM '77) and Loretta Owen.



Jeanette Findley and Michael Findley, M.D. (SOM '82)



Yondell Masten, Ph.D., SON Outcomes Management and Evaluation associate dean, and Meredith Minyard, nursing student and vice president of Operations for the Student Government Association

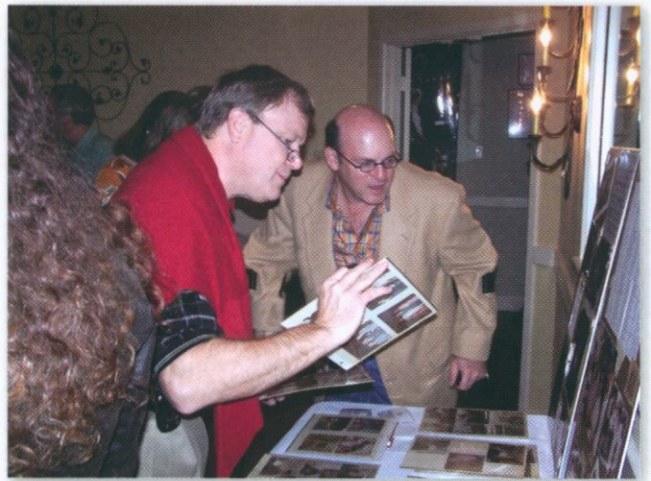


Robyn Bulham (SON '92) and Bobby Bulham





Michael Findley, M.D., (SOM '82) and Beatrice Stamps, M.D., (SOM '82)



Mike Stamps, M.D., (SOM '82) and Mark Scioli, M.D., (SOM '82)



President John C. Baldwin, M.D., Cmdr. Sarah Shea, (SON '91), School of Nursing Dean Alexia Green, Ph.D., and School of Medicine Professor Bernhard T. Mitemeyer, M.D.



Judith Keller (SOAHS '90), School of Allied Health Sciences instructor, and School of Allied Health Sciences Dean Paul P. Brooke, Ph.D.



Sidney Phillips, Pharm.D., (SOP '01) and Cheri Phillips

## Congratulations to the 2007 Distinguished Alumni

*Pictured* WITH TTUHSC PRESIDENT JOHN BALDWIN, M.D.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

**GARY NEWSOM, M.D.**, (SOM Resident '86, Fellow '88)

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE AND HEARING SCIENCES

**JUDITH KELLER, M.S.**, CCC-SLP, (SOAHS '90)

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

**SIDNEY PHILLIPS, PHARM.D.**, (SOP '01)

SCHOOL OF NURSING DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL CARE

**CMDR. SARAH SHEA, R.N.**, B.S.N., M.P.H., (SON '91)

SCHOOL OF NURSING DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA FOR COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

**DEBORAH BELL, M.S.N., FNP-C**, (SON '00)

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SCIENCES

**BILL THREADGILL, PT, OCS**, (SOAHS '90)

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**DOUG KLEPPER, M.D.**, (SOM '89)

RESEARCH SCIENTIST DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

**PHILIP GATES, M.D.**, (SOM '77)

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CLINIC ADMINISTRATION AND REHABILITATION COUNSELING

**RICHARD WHITWORTH** (SOAHS '06)

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY SCIENCES AND PRIMARY CARE

**DONNIE BERRY, M.D.**, (SOAHS '94, SOM '00)



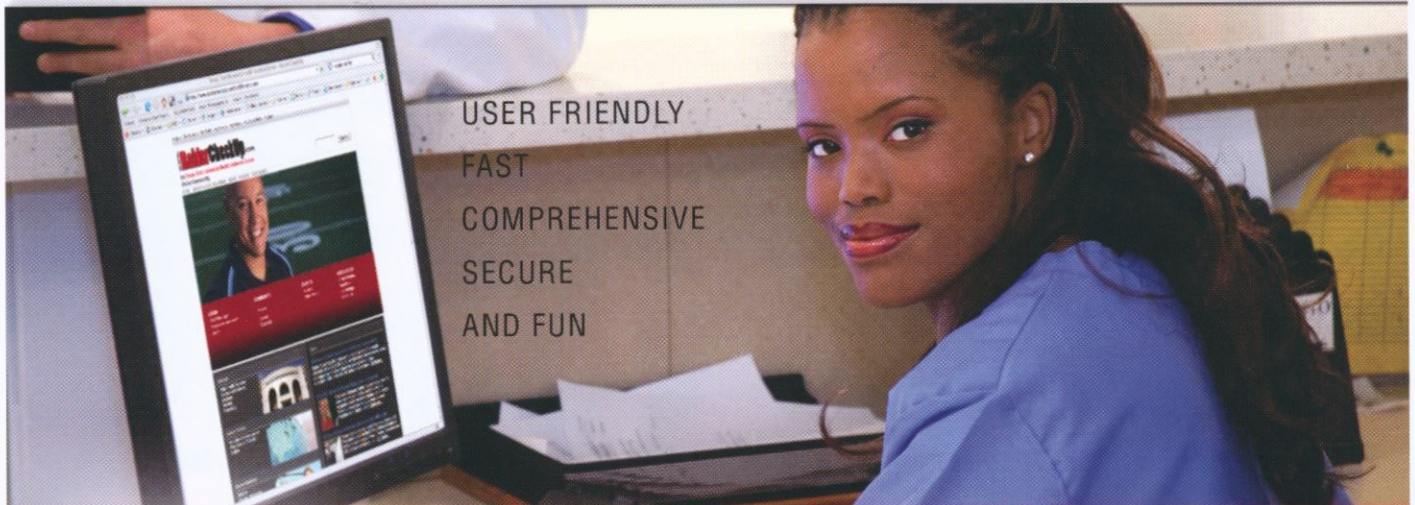
*Not pictured:*

SCHOOL OF NURSING HONOREE FOR LEADERSHIP IN HEALTH CARE  
**DONNA SCOTT TILLEY, R.N., PH.D.**, (SON '91, '97)

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY HONOREE FOR BEST PRACTICE  
**ROXANN DOMINGUEZ, PHARM.D.**, (SOP '03)

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY HONOREE BEST PRACTICE  
**CHRIS HOGUE, PHARM.D.**, (SOP '00)

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**News**

- \* TTUHSC updates and news
- \* Current events
- \* Alumni Relations

**Community**

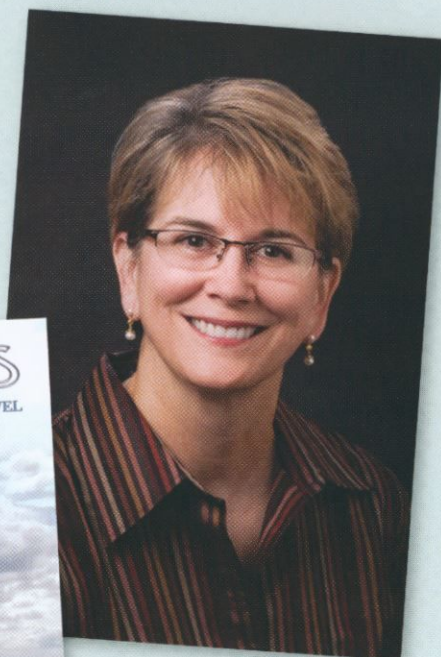
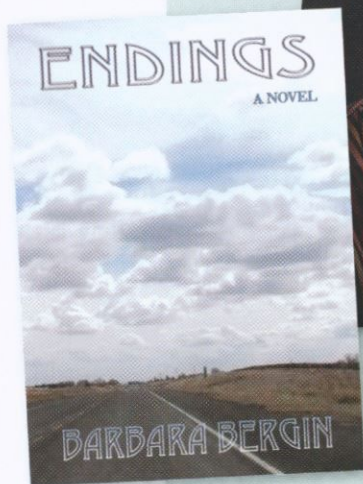
- \* Alumni
- \* Current Students (coming soon)

**Events**

- \* Reunion
- \* Other Events
- \* Forums

**Resources**

- \* Online Directory
- \* Classifieds
- \* Job Postings
- \* Contact Us

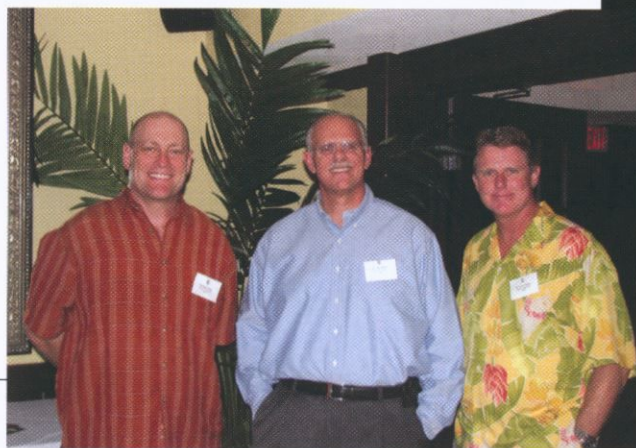


**ALUMNA RELEASES FIRST NOVEL** :: Fictional character Leslie Cohen, M.D., survives a horrifying accident that leaves her living a life devoid of personal relationships. That is until she accepts a one-month temporary position in Abilene, Texas, covering for a popular local surgeon. There Cohen comes to terms with her loss and learns to once again live.

Author Barbara Bergin, M.D., (SOM '81) hints at personal experiences as a mother, wife, physician and horse woman in her first novel, "Endings." The book was released Nov. 15 by Sunstone Press ([www.sunstonepress.com](http://www.sunstonepress.com)). Bergin, is co-founder of Texas Orthopaedics, Sports and Rehabilitation Associates of Austin along with several other TTUHSC alumni, and became a world champion horseback rider as an adult. She says writing was a way to fill the down time between competitions. Bergin is ranked as one of the top 10 reined cow horse performers and cutting horse riders. She and her husband, Paul Nader, M.D., (SOM '81) live in Austin near their college-age children, Wallis and Matt.

A portion of the profits from "Endings" will be used to purchase automated external defibrillators, the type of medical equipment that helped save the life of Bergin's son, Matt, in 2006 after he collapsed on the field during his high school football game.

**ALUMNI RECEPTIONS** :: TTUHSC hosted receptions this fall in Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston for alumni, friends and local dignitaries. Special guests at the Austin reception included retired Admiral Bobby R. Inman, U.S.N., former head of the National Security Council and Centennial Chair in National Policy at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. Also pictured: Glen Reid (SOAHS '97) and wife, Katie, TTUHSC President John Baldwin, M.D., and School of Medicine Dean Berk.



Austin alum: Harry H. Jung III, M.D., ('81) Paul Nader, M.D. ('81) and Steve Wilson, M.D., ('80)

## COMMITMENT TO A CAUSE

BY REBECCA HARDIN

A paramedic and native of the rural Seagraves community, **DANE SMITH, P.A.-C, LP**, understands residents in his small hometown need close access to health care.

This realization and his commitment to a medical career are the reasons his hometown has a health clinic once again.

Smith, a member of the Gaines County Emergency Medical Services unit since the 1980s, retired from farming in 1997 and began working full time at the Northeast Gaines County EMS District. He later became its director.

In 2004, Smith entered the Physician Assistant program. While completing rotations at Cochran County Memorial Hospital in Morton, a community 60 miles northwest of Seagraves, he met George Manning, M.D., a community physician and the medical director for Physician Assistant program. Manning approached Smith about reopening the Seagraves clinic, which had closed several years before due to a lack of medical personnel.

Physician assistants cannot practice without supervision from a medical doctor, so in order to reopen the clinic in Seagraves the duo had to find a way for Manning to oversee patient treatment. The clinic reopened in March with Smith in charge.

Today, Manning travels once a week to Seagraves to oversee treatment of Smith's patients while continuing to see patients in Cochran County. He is available any time to Smith via cell phone for counsel.

"The people of Seagraves and the surrounding communities are very fortunate to have someone as dedicated as Dane," said Manning.

Smith continues to serve on a volunteer basis for the EMS district while seeing patients five days a week in the clinic. His dedication to the health of his community is making a difference every day.



**DANE SMITH**  
PA-C, LP  
SOAHS '06

YANG "DENNIS" DU  
PH D  
GSBS '00

SUCCESS BY WAY OF LUBBOCK

BY DANETTE BAKER

With his parents insisting that he study abroad, YANG "DENNIS" DU, Ph.D., submitted applications to graduate schools worldwide before accepting an offer and scholarship from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Du moved from his homeland China to Lubbock, a place he knew nothing about except for its location on a map.

Adding to the unknown, Du said "I did not speak English, and I learned that my professor was almost as new to this as I was."

Simon C. Williams, Ph.D., associate professor of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, had joined the TTUHSC faculty just six months before accepting Du as his first graduate student.

"Dennis (as Du is known to his American colleagues and friends) made a slightly risky decision to accept our offer given that I was a young investigator starting my own laboratory for the first time," said Williams. "Yet he was the perfect student, hard-working, conscientious and meticulous in generating data and always willing to try something new if it could potentially contribute to his project."

Du credits the school's annual research poster presentations as the impetus for learning to speak almost impeccable English. Additionally, he says professors Williams and Charles Faust, Ph.D., in Cell Biology and Biochemistry, laid technical and academic foundations.

After completing postdoctoral training last spring at the National Cancer Institute, Du joined the Department of Pediatrics faculty at Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., and leads a research project investigating the theory that cancers contain rare stem cells, allowing them regenerate and sustain tumors.

"I am very fortunate to have had such knowledgeable and gifted scientists at TTUHSC to learn from," Du says. "They taught me the basic concepts of biology, and most importantly, the scientific way of thinking."



## ADVANCING ALS TREATMENTS

BY REBECCA HARDIN

**DARAGH HEITZMAN, M.D.**, is making a difference in the lives of his patients by working hand-in-hand with the Muscular Dystrophy Association to ensure funding for research and innovative treatments.

Heitzman, a neurologist in Dallas, has been involved with the MDA for the past four years. As part of his medical training in the early 1990s, Heitzman worked with patients at the Cleveland Clinic who had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

There, he discovered a need for improved therapies for ALS patients. ALS is fatal disease and there are limited therapeutic options. Heitzman was prompted to become more involved with the ALS community, participating in both care and experimental drug trials.

Today, the MDA works with Heitzman's clinic, helping with drug trials, staffing and financial resources. Heitzman is involved with the annual Jerry Lewis Telethon and does advertising for the local MDA chapter. He and one of his patients were featured on the telethon in September.

"My experience at Texas Tech was so positive," said Heitzman. "It's a very well rounded program, and I'd say Texas Tech stands with the best."

**DARAGH HEITZMAN**

M.D.

SOM '89

# INSPIRED TO SERVE

BY LINDSEY DUNCAN

As a student nurse at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, **JACQUELINE WARD, R.N., B.S.N.**, was inspired by the intimate bond nurses develop with their patients.

"Those little children really filled my heart," she said of the young patients. Ward has worked at Texas Children's for more than 20 years, currently serving as the assistant director of nursing for the hospital's Cancer Center and Hematology Service. During this time, she has continued her education, earning her Bachelor's in Nursing from TTUHSC.

"I was talking with a colleague who had heard positive things about Tech," Ward said. "I did some research and found the BSN program was convenient and flexible, which was important for my schedule at that time."

Ward has found a natural passion for her work and says the children's courage and determination continue to fuel her dedication. She often is invited by former patients to high school graduation ceremonies and looks forward to visits from those who bring their children to meet her.

"When you see someone come so far, you know you need to be around to do the same thing for another child," Ward said. "They are incredible, their love is unconditional, and they teach you to be strong."

## JACQUELINE WARD

RN, BSN

SON '05

BY LINDSEY DUNCAN

TOM BRAHL

**ROXANN DOMINGUEZ, PHARM.D.**, who recently accepted a position with Magellan Health Services as corporate director of pharmacy, has pursued a career avenue that allows her to work in the middle of a versatile and changing health care landscape.

Since earning a degree from the School of Pharmacy in 2003, Dominguez has focused on improving behavioral health-related care provided to Medicaid and mentally ill patients in New Mexico. She collaborated with the State of New Mexico Health Services Department on several quality and safety initiatives surrounding the utilization of antipsychotic and psychotropic medications in children and adults.

Dominguez served as chair for the State Medicaid Behavioral Health Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and established the Children and Adolescent Behavioral Health Medication Subcommittee, which focused on psychotropic medication utilization for children and adolescents in state custody and those eligible for Medicaid. She also has worked with the National Alliance on Mental Illness to provide presentations on psychopharmacology.

"There are so many exciting opportunities," Dominguez said. "I love this job; I'm very passionate about it."

TTUHSC helped prepare her for the health care industry by pioneering a change in pharmacy school curriculums, which started students on rotations after only two years instead of waiting until the fourth year, she said. "TTUHSC is the school that was setting the bar for pharmacy schools nationwide."

Dominguez has continued to stay involved in pharmacy education by serving as a preceptor for students at the University of New Mexico's College of Pharmacy. In 2007, she received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Pharmacy Practice, and in May she was honored as a 2007 Raider Rojas Distinguished Hispanic Alumna.

## ROXANN DOMINGUEZ

PHARM.D.

SOP '03



# ENDOWED CHAIRS

As one of the most prestigious gifts made to a university, an endowment helps meet current needs while creating a permanent legacy. Endowments help support scholarships, research, faculty development and capital improvements.

*Thank you to the donors who have established these endowed chairs from June through November 2007.*

## **UMC HEALTH SYSTEM ENDOWED CHAIR FOR PATIENT SAFETY**

The School of Nursing has named Rodney Hicks, R.N., Ph.D., (SON '87, '93) as the first UMC Health System Endowed Chair for Patient Safety. University Medical Center established the chair in July, giving the School of Nursing its first endowed chair in Lubbock. As chair and professor, Hicks will be involved in patient safety research and practices throughout West Texas. Previously, he was manager for patient safety research and practice for the United States Pharmacopeia Healthcare Quality and Information Department in Rockville, Md. In this role, he performed numerous studies aimed at improving safety throughout the medication-use process.

## **FREDERICK AND GINGER FRANCIS ENDOWED DEAN'S CHAIR**

L. Frederick "Rick" and Ginger G. Francis pledged in August to fund the Frederick and Ginger Francis Endowed Dean's Chair. The gift will subsidize expenses of the dean at the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso. J. Manual de la Rosa, M.D., (SOM '84) is the dean. Francis is a member of the Texas Tech System Board of Regents.

## **ENDOWED CHAIR IN PEDIATRICS**

The Department of Pediatrics at the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso has named Gilbert A. Handal, M.D., to the Endowed Chair in Pediatrics. Handal is regional chairman, professor and residency program director for the Department of Pediatrics. Martha Cuellar Acuña established the chair in July.

## **MEIER/MOUNSEY ENDOWED CHAIR IN PEDIATRIC SURGERY**

Peter and Anne Mounsey and the Mounsey Family Foundation created the Meier/Mounsey Endowed Chair in Pediatric Surgery at the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso. The chair was established to honor Donald E. Meier, M.D., for his outstanding contributions to pediatric surgery. Meier, professor of clinical surgery and director of pediatric surgery, joined the TTUHSC faculty in 2003. Meier's interest is in surgical education on a national and international level.

## **KENNETH H. NELDNER M.D. ENDOWED CHAIR FOR DERMATOLOGY**

The Department of Dermatology in Lubbock has established its first endowed chair, naming it in honor of Chairman Emeritus Kenneth H. Neldner, M.D. Cloyce Stetson, M.D., department chairman, was named in September as chair holder. Neldner came to TTUHSC in 1983 as professor and chair of the dermatology department. He is credited with advancing the research and treatment of PXE, or pseudoxanthoma elasticum, an inherited disorder that causes calcification of the elastic tissues in the body. Among his contributions, Neldner and colleagues have identified the gene that causes PXE. He serves on numerous society-related associations and holds the distinction of writing the only book on PXE.

## **ASCO ENDOWED CHAIR FOR EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH**

The ASCO Endowed Chair for Excellence in Women's Health was established in August for the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health at Amarillo. The endowed chair will support a clinical research position in women's health. The physician selected to fill this position will perform nationally recognized research, expand clinical programs, and educate future physicians in women's health. The gift marks the second endowed chair given to TTUHSC by ASCO Inc., owned by the Wright family. Bill Wright and his family, Paula Wright Key and Charles E. Key, Brax and Beth Wright, and Steve and Lea Wright, established the Corinne Payne Wright Regents Endowed Chair in Alzheimer's disease in August 2005.

# THANK YOU for your gifts!

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Dr. Stephen Bullard  
Mr. Joe G. Hanson  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Hughes  
Mr. Buzz Hurt and  
Mrs. Betsy A. Triplett-Hurt  
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Dr. and Mrs. Marc W. Wimpee

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Dr. Teddy Jones and  
Mr. Jim Bob Jones  
G. Luke Lewis, M.D.  
Ruskin R. Lines, M.D.  
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Centene Management Company, LLC  
Circle of Friends  
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Dan & Hermine Hemphill  
Charitable Foundation  
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El Paso Orthopaedic Surgery Group  
El Paso Wings, LTD  
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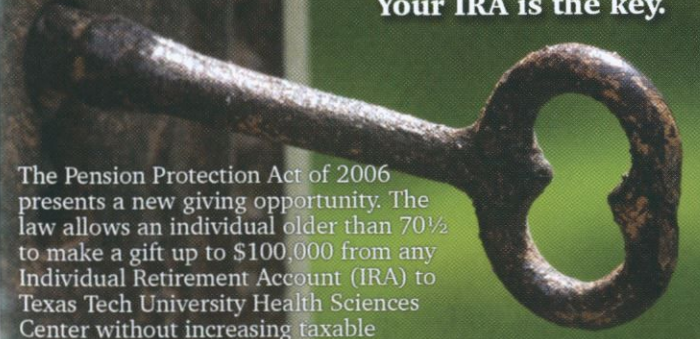
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 Dunbar, Broaddus, Gibson, LLP  
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### Opportunity is knocking. Your IRA is the key.



The Pension Protection Act of 2006 presents a new giving opportunity. The law allows an individual older than 70½ to make a gift up to \$100,000 from any Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center without increasing taxable income. The gift to TTUHSC also counts toward the individual's minimum required distribution for the year.

Act now, this opportunity ends  
Dec. 31, 2007!

To learn more, please contact  
Glenna Beyer at (806) 743-1445

## Working together for women

What a huge thrill it is for me to have a women's health institute in my home state named for me. I can't imagine anything better than being associated with the good health of women—especially West Texas women—and with the good work of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.


Through the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, you will be preparing the next generation of health care providers and scientists to focus on an issue that affects all of us: women's health. Many of today's greatest threats to public health—heart disease, obesity, osteoarthritis and depression—are more common in women than they are in men. Women also face a whole range of health concerns unique to them such as cervical, breast and ovarian cancers, the joys of pregnancy

and motherhood, and the less-than-joyful experience of menopause.

Health evaluations provided through the institute already have diagnosed severe osteoporosis in women who were not aware of the disease. Women have discovered they have diabetes from your blood glucose screenings, and often you provide women with their first mammogram, frequently detecting breast abnormalities, which can then be treated.

Prevention is one of our best defenses against many of these diseases—and the main reason women like my mother are breast cancer survivors. I'm honored that a new women's center in Midland will bear her name. The Jenna Welch Center, to be located on the first floor of the former Allison Cancer Center, will allow TTUHSC to expand its excellent obstetrics and gynecology program as well as offer state-of-the-art primary women's health services.

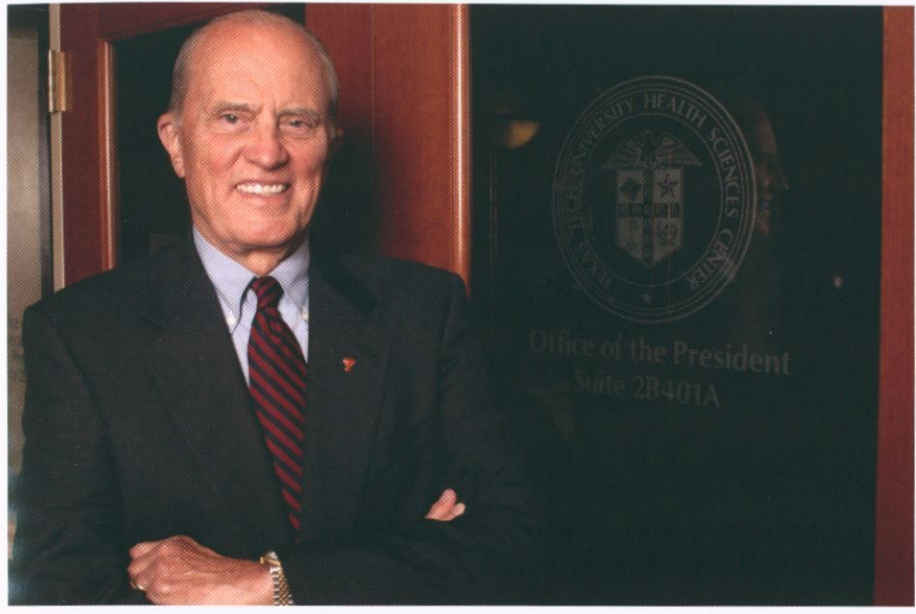
With the outstanding education and community outreach taking place at the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health—and soon at the Jenna Welch Center—women throughout West Texas will hear the message of prevention, and they'll benefit from the university's world-class research and care. You're reaching the women who are too busy taking care of their jobs and their families to take care of themselves—and you're helping them take charge of their own health.

I'm honored that these new initiatives in women's health are named for my mother and me. This is a huge privilege to be a part of the very important work you do every day to save women's lives. 

*Excerpts from Mrs. Bush's remarks on Nov. 7 at the official renaming of the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health in Amarillo and Odessa.*



NEAL HINKLE

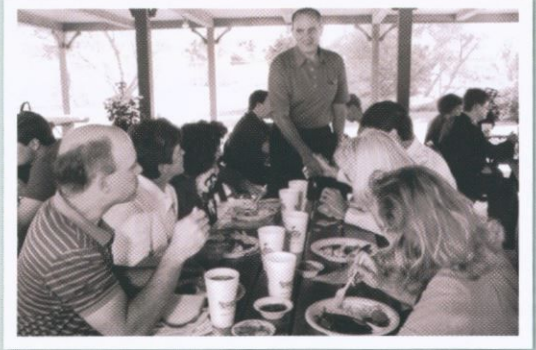


## For your faithful service, we salute you

Bernhard T. Mittermeyer, M.D., has faithfully served TTUHSC since November 1986, when he joined the institution. His first position was as executive vice president and provost, reporting directly to the president of Texas Tech University. Later, as chief of the Division of Urology in the School of Medicine, he served patients from throughout the region. Three times he has served as interim dean of the School of Medicine. He served as interim president of TTUHSC from June 2006 until August 2007 when he returned to his love of practicing urology.

Dr. Mittermeyer—a salute for your dedication and continued service to the School of Medicine, the Health Sciences Center and the Texas Tech University System.

Carry on!



*“NO MATTER WHAT  
THE PLAY OR  
POSITION...SEND  
BERNIE IN.”*

*—CHANCELLOR KENT HANCE*





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